

THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 2564.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1876.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

BRITISH MUSEUM.—In future the British Museum will be closed for the purposes of cleaning, &c. during the first week in February, the first week in May, and the first week in October instead of, as hitherto, during the first week in January, May, and September. J. WINTER JONES, Principal Librarian. British Museum, December 9, 1876.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN. 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, London, W.—President, Mr. Sergeant Cox. Thursday, December 21, 8.30 p.m. Business. 1. Communications; 2. Adjourned Discussion. (Mr. Colfax) on Mr. Vail's Paper, 'On Electro-Biology'; 3. The President's Paper, 'Some more Phenomena of Sleep and Dream.' FRANCIS K. MUMTON, Honorary Secretary.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY. LIBRARIANSHIP. The Library Committee are prepared to receive Applications for this Office, and to select Three Candidates from whom a LIBRARIAN may be appointed by the Council. The Salary is £500 a year, payable from the Parliamentary Grant. A statement of the conditions of appointment, and of the duties of the Office, may be obtained on application in writing, addressed to the Registrar. Applications for the Librarianship should be lodged with the Registrar before Twelve o'clock on SATURDAY, the 15th of January, 1877, accompanied by copies of Testimonials, and a statement of the Candidate's age, previous occupation, knowledge of languages, and other qualifications. W. EDW. STEELE, M.D., Registrar. 4th December, 1876.

BOROUGH OF STOCKTON.—The Corporation of the Borough of Stockton is desirous of receiving APPLICATIONS for the Office of LIBRARIAN of the BOROUGH LIBRARY in STOCKTON. Applicants must state Age and Occupation, and enclose Copies of recent Testimonials, and the amount of salary required. The successful Candidate will be required to devote the whole of his time to the duties of Librarian, and will be required to reside on the Premises, a House, Gas and Coals being found by the Corporation. Applications, with Testimonials, endorsed FREE LIBRARY, to be sent to not later than the 25th December, 1876. H. G. FABER, Town Clerk. Stockton-on-Tees, November 29, 1876.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1876.

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LITERATURE

Charles Kingsley: his Letters and Memories of his Life. Edited by his Wife. 2 vols.
(H. S. King & Co.)

MANY readers, it is to be feared, who open this book with eagerness, will lay it down with a sense of disappointment. It is sadly too long. It gives the incidents of the life with perfect taste indeed, but with no graphic power. It contains not a single good or amusing story. Names of great contemporaries pass and re-pass, but they are merely names without form or substance; and, worst of all, we get only such a picture of Kingsley himself as we can ourselves manage to create. Materials, of course, are supplied, and as we read Mr. Campbell's recollections, or Mr. John Martineau's impressions, or the reminiscences of Sir Charles Bunbury or Dean Howson, we feel as an artist may, who has to reproduce a likeness, after death, from an old photograph, a faded miniature, an early sketch. However, all said and done, this biography is but like nine-tenths of the biographies which now appear. It is given but to few to call up again the form, alive and full of vigour, and paint a portrait which may last with those of Nelson or of John Sterling.

Still, in this instance we feel a more than usual regret. Charles Kingsley, if not exactly a great man, was a man of a particularly interesting and picturesque character. He was unlike any one else in his merits and his defects, and his very defects had a certain nobility about them. Endowed with a most manly courage, he had all a woman's tenderness. Enthusiastic and impulsive, he was tenacious of main principles of conduct and of duty; and if there appeared a certain inconsistency to the outside world, he was true to his own ideals. Feeling most acutely the sufferings of others, he yet lent support to men whom every philanthropist was attacking. A Chartist in early life, he became more than something of a courtier in later years; and the sense of reverence which led him to speak of Frederick Maurice as "My dear master," impels him to attach the words "My dear young master" to the Prince of Wales. A liberal in some points of theology, he was yet as uncompromising a Churchman as could readily be found. The fact was, his imagination was always stronger than his judgment, and his imagination was curiously coloured as circumstances around him varied.

Yet, whatever else he was, he was never other than a transparently sincere and honest man, working hard in his parish, helping every one he could by word or deed, and endeavouring to lead a noble Christian life. Heart and mind were always busy, and no wonder there was overstrain, and a too early death.

The book before us is mainly made up of Kingsley's letters. There are far too many of them, and they contain but little matter of literary interest. Some criticisms on hymnology, towards the end of the second volume, are almost the best thing in this direction. We should like to have known more about his own novels, under what circumstances they were written, and what was his manner of work. We should like to have had his opinion on the books of others; but really, except that he was prejudiced against Charlotte Brontë, and thought Mrs. Gaskell's 'Ruth' unduly attacked, we can glean very little.

The two engrossing subjects in these letters are social and religious controversies on the one hand, and natural history, or, as he preferred to call it, "the history of nature," on the other. But the controversies are, for the most part, now worn out and tiresome, and the natural history contains few new facts or discoveries. The letters, too, as compositions, are greatly wanting in point and brilliancy. They are generally almost solemn in their earnestness. Kingsley can describe scenery, but he cannot describe men. There seems an absolute deficiency of any sense of humour, unless it is humorous to spell "Thomas" (Hughes) "Tummas," and ask, "Ain't I a slaved party?" Allowing that these letters show every possible good and kindly quality, there are numbers which were not worth printing, for they really are not worth reading. Another error in judgment is the reprinting of so many parts of sermons, temporary addresses, and the like, which only add to the heaviness of the book in more senses than one.

Charles Kingsley was born in 1819, in Devonshire; but not long afterwards his father was offered a living in the Fen country, and there Kingsley's first years were spent. They then moved to Clovelly, and that early impressions were strong upon him all through life is proved by his writing, not long before his death, in answer to a question as to his favourite scenery, "wide flats or open sea." He was a precocious boy, almost as wonderful as that prodigy, little Malkin. At four years old, he had preached a sermon; before five, he had written poems. Then came school days, when he was probably not particularly happy, for he did not care about games, and was not popular. However, he composed rhapsodies and poems, and hunted over field and wood for every wild flower he could find. His tastes were being rapidly formed, and with his growth they would continue to grow. His family had, meanwhile, left Clovelly, of which, by the way, we get a much more agreeable impression than we did from the life of Hawker, and had settled at Chelsea. How he hated Chelsea, and how glad he was when the time came for him to leave King's College, London, and go up to Cambridge! Here his true life was to begin. He got a scholarship at Magdalene; he read, he fished, he boated. He entered with keen

zest into every pleasure of the place. He geologized with Prof. Sedgwick, and learnt boxing from a negro. He began to take part in the theological controversies of the day, and "fiercely denounced the ascetic view of sacred human ties," which the Oxford school encouraged. These denunciations would certainly not be the weaker since his own affections were already engaged, and he was looking forward, with a hope which was more than fulfilled, to a happy married life. Whether the expression of his strong feeling on this point was always prudent, we will not undertake to say; but that from before the publication of 'The Saint's Tragedy' till the very end he had this feeling, and would express it, is most certain. It made him enemies. It probably did moral harm in some cases, while it might do good in others. It tinged almost all his novels, and is constantly cropping out among his letters. If he erred at all, it was probably in not allowing for wide difference of temperament, and in forgetting that there are some subjects which it is safest not to touch often. Any extreme tendency to asceticism might safely be trusted not to extend very far. Any anti-ascetic teaching would certainly be misrepresented, and most possibly be misunderstood.

In 1842 Kingsley took orders, and became curate at Eversley, in Hampshire,—and two years more and he was most happily married and settled at Eversley as rector. There was much to be done with a neglected parish and decaying church, but he never spared himself, and worked with a will, as he always did, till he had put things right. The practical hard work of life was a wholesome discipline, for his opinions were still fermenting, and he complained that he was "an Ishmael of Catholicity." But besides the hard work, there was always that happy home to turn to, and, out of doors, the sounds and sights of nature, and the stream in which—and this was his great delight—he might fish for trout.

The following year made Kingsley known beyond the small circle of attached friends who had already recognized his ability. He had published 'The Saint's Tragedy,' and was writing 'Yeast' for *Fraser*. It was clear that he was resolved to speak out his thoughts, whatever the consequences. Both books were an attack upon asceticism, and both lashed to fury the High Church party. It was said that they were profligate and heretical, and preached doctrines subversive of any true Christian morality. It is really almost difficult to conceive the irritation they caused; but at that time men were more easily shocked than now, and we well remember that the (then) leading bookseller at Cambridge refused to procure for an undergraduate Clough's 'Ambarvalia' and Froude's 'Nemesis of Faith.'

But on the other hand, and among other sets, there was abundant admiration for the literary power and the manly tone. New acquaintances ripened into firm friends, and very early in the day, and while as yet only 'The Saint's Tragedy' was out, Kingsley found himself one of a little band of men of no ordinary stamp. The leader of them was Frederick Maurice, and among them were Mr. Ludlow and Mr. Thomas Hughes. Their bond of sympathy was not literary so much as social. The Chartist movement was then

at its height, and was believed to be a real danger to the country. There was great distress, great misery, and sad degradation among the lower classes, and who could tell what troubles might follow? So Kingsley, with characteristic energy and some unwisdom, flung himself into schemes for the bettering of the world. Christianity should lead Chartism, and a placard appeared about "Christ the poor Man, who died for poor men." Then the friends published a little periodical, called *Politics for the People*, and Kingsley, under the name of "Parson Lot," wrote wonderful letters to his Chartist allies. Once he attended a public meeting, and called himself a Chartist. But it all came to nothing. *Politics for the People* died out, Kingsley went back to Eversley, and the others employed themselves more usefully in the formation and conduct of that most excellent Working Men's College, which has since done so much good.

One other scheme, however, they started a little later on. Regeneration was not to come from Christianity acting on Chartism, but from Christianity leavening Political Economy. The poor working tailor was ground down by middle-men. Competition was so abused as to be the poor man's curse. Demand and supply were all very well, but there was something holier than demand and supply. And so 'Cheap Clothes and Nasty' was written, and 'Alton Locke' was the novel of Christian socialism, and Working Tailors' Associations were formed. 'Alton Locke' succeeded in spite of its Radicalism, and by force of its strong fervent writing. A new periodical, called the *Christian Socialist*, did not succeed. At a penny a number, it informed working men that they were "flesh-encircled spirits," and, for the most part, seemed but indifferently adapted for a popular magazine. The political economists then came into the field, and Mr. Greg's article in the *Edinburgh Review*, in which he proved that without competition there must necessarily be monopoly, gave a blow which the movement never recovered. The Working Tailors' Association seemed to flourish for the moment, and Kingsley writes with delight,—"Percy Feilding (Captain in the Guards) went to Castle Street and ordered a coat, and I met two men at dinner yesterday with Castle Street coats on." But the whole thing was purely factitious; and in 1857 Kingsley writes to Mr. Bullar, "Associations are a failure because the working men are not fit for them."

And now ended Kingsley's direct contact with Radicals and Radicalism. Even in the midst of the excitement he had found his nerves constantly jarred and his fastidiousness offended by the company he had been obliged to meet. It is told of him that in the field of natural history he could like all horrible insects except one—a spider, from which he always shrunk. He bore with much from his Chartist and working-men associates, but (says Mr. Hughes) "he was quite upset and silenced by the appearance of a bearded Member of Council at an important deputation in a straw hat and blue plush gloves. He did not recover from the depression produced by those gloves for days."

All this time he was busy with pupils at Eversley, inattending to his parish, in lecturing at Queen's College, London, in making poetry,

and in writing letters. One curious fact about his letter-writing was the number of people to whom he had to give ghostly counsel and advice. They knew him from his novels, and as Hawthorne, on the strength of the 'Scarlet Letter,' was made the confessor of unknown American ladies, so Kingsley, on the strength of 'Yeast' and 'Alton Locke,' received no small number of the confidences of unknown young men. It gave him additional and anxious work, from which he would gladly have been exempted. But besides all the work, there were excursions, the old out-door pursuits, and the birth of little children. His life was very full, and health alone was wanting to make him a perfectly happy man; but his health had been much shaken, and, wisely as he could counsel others, he never kept himself free from over-excitement and stress of labour.

In 1853 'Hypatia' appeared, and the outcry was worse than ever; but Bunsen strenuously vindicated its teaching from all grave charges, and in any case the most virulent critics could not have seriously injured so remarkable a book. Soon afterwards followed 'Westward Ho!' 'The Heroes,' 'Two Years Ago,' and some smaller works. His interests become more and more centred on theological matters, with, however, a side glance at questions of sanitary reform. "As for politics," he writes, "I heed them not: the only Politician now living is the Lord of all." It seemed no longer unnatural that he should, in 1859, be appointed chaplain to the Queen. But honours were now thrust upon him, and the following year he was to succeed Sir James Stephen as Professor of Modern History at Cambridge. He held the post for ten years, but on the whole his professorship was not successful. He could lecture forcibly enough on history, as partly evolved out of his own consciousness, but he was too hasty in his generalizations, and not sufficiently cognizant of his facts. Still he was always suggestive and often picturesque, while his tone would be pure and high and noble. After all, however, historical instruction, rather than moral improvement or literary culture, was the object of the professorship, and it was well on all accounts that he retired from it.

His new responsibilities have, meanwhile, been making him more and more Conservative, and we gather up here some of his later views. He calls it a "calumny" to say that he "preaches muscular Christianity," and again he speaks of it as "an impertinent name." He "deplures" 'Essays and Reviews,' and begs his curate not to disturb his mind by reading them. He speaks of Colenso's Pentateuch as "pandering to the cynicism and frivolity of many." He considers the Athanasian Creed "that precious and noble creed," and forms one of a committee for its defence. But in spite of his orthodoxy, a Nemesis for past offences still dogs his steps, and an honorary degree at Oxford is opposed on the cruelly absurd ground of the immorality of 'Hypatia.' Kingsley must have felt this deeply, and he must have felt no less deeply two other occasions on which, still more decidedly, general opinion went against him. One was the remarkable controversy with Dr. Newman, which led to the publication of the famous 'Apologia.' The matter is touched upon very slightly in these pages, but, as

Mrs. Kingsley observes,—"The main point at issue was, not the personal integrity of Dr. Newman, but the question whether the Roman Catholic priesthood are encouraged or discouraged to pursue 'truth for its own sake.'" Now it is quite certain that there is a difference between the Protestant's and the Jesuit's mode of regarding truth. No Protestant, for instance, would allege, as does a Jesuit writer in the *Month* for April, 1875, that if a husband asked his wife whether she had been unfaithful, "the law of truth was suspended in her case—her husband was seeking to know what he had no right to ask: she could then reply by flat and absolute denial." But Kingsley, in illustrating his general position, had brought the personal accusation against Dr. Newman,—that he had said that truth for its own sake need not be, and on the whole ought not to be, a virtue with the Roman clergy. It was an unfortunate blunder, to say the least of it; he managed his apology badly, and found himself completely crushed by his powerful adversary.

The other occasion, on which Kingsley disappointed many, who thought they knew him, was when he took part in the banquet given to Governor Eyre on his return from Jamaica. He writes:—

"I have been cursed for it, as if I had been a dog, who had never stood up for the working man, when all the world was bounding him (the working man) down in 1848-9, and imperilled my own prospects in life in behalf of freedom and justice. Now men insult me because I stand up for a man whom I believe ill used, calumniated, and hunted to death by fanatics."

But the fact was, Kingsley's opinions on such cases as that of Governor Eyre had always been the same. It is in 1849 that, writing to Mr. Ludlow about Rajah Brooke, he says, "The truest benevolence is occasional severity. It is expedient that one man die for the people. One tribe exterminated, if need be, to save a whole continent."

Still, except among those who loved him best, there seemed cause enough for wonderment; and Mr. Trevelyan wrote some savage lines, beginning—

Let's rather speak of what was felt by us who value 'Yeast'

On learning who had led the choir at that triumphal feast—

with much more which it is needless now to reproduce.

But we must hurry on, and can only allude to Scotch visits to the Duke of Argyll and the Prince of Wales, and to a trip to France. In 1869 Kingsley was made Canon of Chester; and here he found a most congenial sphere of labour. He might well be beloved, for he showed himself always so helpful and so kindly. He started a scientific society, he botanized with the young men, he lectured and he preached, and, as always, his heart was in all his work. In another four years he is promoted to a Canonry at Westminster; but there is not much more work left for him now to do. A few months of a tour in America, a few months more of life at home, and then, on the 23rd of January, 1875, came the end. Nothing can be more pathetic than the description of his last illness. His faith never was firmer than when all else failed him. He died, as he had lived, a brave man and a Christian soldier.

His funeral was largely attended, for few

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really knew him who did not hold him in love and honour; and on his grave are inscribed three words, by her who knew him best of all—words which he had intended for her when he had believed her to be dying—"Amavimus, amamus, amabimus."

We cannot here enter into any critical estimate of his writings. It may be that his novels will be forgotten; but he has written at least two ballads which will live for ever in the memory of Englishmen among the most touching ballads in our language.

Etruscan Bologna: a Study. By Richard F. Burton. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

'ETRUSCAN BOLOGNA' is essentially a *tour de force*, being a bold and skilful attempt to concoct a popular work out of such dry and intractable materials as are afforded by the record of antiquarian, craniological and palæontological researches and speculations. The huge dead weight of his subjects fails to crush the liveliness out of the author's style, and everything that clear type and neat illustration can do for the reader had been done; but for all that, the book is a failure. It contains far too much scientific terminology and dry detail to be pleasant reading for an ordinary individual, and is at the same time too popular in intention, if not in effect, to be satisfactory to such as take genuine interest in the topics discussed.

Capt. Burton's interest in Etruscan matters appears to have been stimulated by the Anthropological Congress assembled at Bologna in 1871. He has visited, in an enthusiastic or highly conscientious spirit, the local collections of archaeology and excavations and relics still *in situ*, and has, in short, got up his subject very creditably. The most useful portions of the book are those in which his wide experiences as a traveller are used to show that Etruscan habits and beliefs are very inconclusive and insecure tests of racial affinity. Thus it is pointed out that "converging door-jambs . . . belong to all primitive architecture"; that "tracing descent by the mother's side" (which topic, by the way, has been fully discussed by Bachofen) is found both amongst Congolese Africans and old Icelanders; while several forms of the Etruscan tomb and the curious wells are very like sundry Celtic relics. Capt. Burton's intimate acquaintance with the Arabic and Persian languages enables him to cast ridicule upon some of Mr. Isaac Taylor's etymologies. The very sharp and lively attack on that gentleman's 'Etruscan Researches' (Part III., Sec. V.) is, in our opinion, a work of supererogation, as the ethnographic observations would have been more effective in a less controversial form; and as Mr. I. Taylor himself is probably the only philologist who still continues to uphold his views as to the language, detailed criticism on that point is unnecessary, and consequently ungenerous. Capt. Burton is, apparently, not an immaculate etymologist himself, as he implies (p. 223) that *ventus* and *ávepos* are kindred forms. He concludes that Etruscan "may possibly be proved Italiot," yet speaks of Corssen's "undoubted failure" to prove his theory. How far Capt. Burton is justified in passing judgment on Corssen's work, may be inferred from the fact that he gives a list (p. 231) of Corssen's cardinal numbers up

to twelve, which, according to the Professor's treatise, comprises six ordinal numbers used as names, and two names formed from ordinal stems. This list only differs from that of the *British Quarterly Review* for October, 1875, by exhibiting two misprints and an inconsistent *eka* for *eca*, while the omission of the middle *s* of *tesnsteis* is a significant point of agreement. The next word to *tesnsteis* on the great Perugian inscription is *rasnes*. Had Capt. Burton been aware of this before he got to p. 190, he would scarcely have said, without qualification (p. 15),—"The word 'Raseni' occurs for the first time in Dion. Hal., and thus it is comparatively modern." This statement occurs in a note which sets forth two entirely different versions of "the Karnak inscription of the 'Pharaoh Menen Phtah.'" As one version "makes the leader not the 'Tursha' (Etruscans) but Marmion King of the Lybians," it is not easy to see why Capt. Burton regards the inscription as "the chief witness" for anything pertaining to the Etruscans. He seems to have become momentarily infected with the credulous, visionary, unscientific spirit of popular archæology. On this ground we must condone the rendering of "Senator Ponzi's" lucubrations on the catastrophic development of early Italy (Part III., Sec. I.). In the next section, which relates to the great Aryan racial movements, Capt. Burton appears to be unaware that the views he produces are diametrically opposed to those of Schleicher, whom he cites in a vague and guarded manner at the outset. The first dozen pages are devoted to modern Bologna, and the last nineteen to the modern Bolognese tongue—a very suggestive, though somewhat disappointing section. It will, therefore, appear that the work might be in closer harmony with its title. The two last-mentioned sections, however, are cleverly tacked on to the main lines of the work, by the assertion (p. 8) that the Bolognese market-women are "the lineal descendants of the Umbrians and the Etruscans." We should have thought that, what with Boians, Romans, the medley of slaves and of the armies of the empire, Goths of various tribes and what not, the modern Bolognese, if he have a drop of Etruscan blood in him, must be to a full-blooded Etruscan as 1 is to the 30th power of 2, at the very highest estimate. Without denying the existence of Etruscan temples, we cannot say that we are convinced that the edifice, of which a restoration is figured on the cover and at p. 121, was either Etruscan or a temple. It might be both the one and the other without proving anything as to Etruscan worship, as Romans might have employed an Etruscan architect. Seeing that there are unmistakable traces of early open-air worship in Greece, the point is of little or no importance as an ethnological criterion. It is curious that it has never occurred to any antiquary to suggest that the miniature clay "dumb-bells" were reels for the thread of the period. We hazard the suggestion on the ground of its being quite plausible enough for the average antiquary or anthropologist. Considering the very inconclusive testimony to be gathered from the craniological portion of the work, from which we might infer that Bologna was not Etruscan at all, we think we might have been spared the bewildering statistics in which the cranio-logic revels.

One more remark as to detail. The phrase "the tomb of Porsenna (Chiusi)" would naturally lead the reader to imagine it was extant. As Pliny stated that not a vestige of it remained in his day, it would be interesting to know if it has been unearthed lately, or if its resurrection is due to a garbled second-hand quotation from Pliny. Mr. Sayce, in the Report of the President of the Philological Society, 1876, made a positive statement that it was existing in Pliny's time. Capt. Burton can scarcely have seen this in time to use it.

To conclude, Capt. Burton's new venture represents a great amount of hard work, though, we should say, on a comparatively unfamiliar subject, and it is put together with remarkable cleverness. The author gives abundant proof of what the world knows well, that he is able and well-informed; but we cannot help feeling that we have before us the offspring of a sudden access of anthropological fervour, rather than the result of quiet, steady research and slowly matured judgment.

The Secret Societies of the European Revolution, 1776-1876. By Thomas Frost. 2 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

MR. FROST treats of the Illuminati, the United Irishmen, the Philadelphians, the Tugendbund, the Carbonari, the Communeros, the Reformed Carbonari, the Hetairia, the United Slavonians, the Templars (of Poland), Young Italy, the Families (of France, in Louis Philippe's reign), Young Germany, Young Poland, Young Switzerland, the Communists, the Fenians, the Nihilists, and the Omladina. As was natural, he calls Lord Beaconsfield to bear testimony to the importance of his subject, and it is unquestionable both that some of the societies he treats of have exercised a great influence, and also that the constant disposition of European communities during the last hundred years to give birth to secret societies is a remarkable symptom of the disease under which they have laboured, and will demand much attention from the future historian of this period of transition. But the subject is at least as difficult as it is important. It requires in the writer who handles it, to begin with, a knowledge of most of the European languages. It requires next a most laborious search in the obscurest recesses of every modern literature. More than all, perhaps, considering the mystery surrounding the subject, the cocoon of lying, white and black, in which it lies enveloped, it requires a cool and clear head, and an inexorable strictness in dealing with evidence. Whether Mr. Frost has these qualifications is what the reader will desire to know. In the meanwhile, we learn from the Preface that Mr. Frost has "drawn upon a store of materials which he succeeded in collecting from private sources during more than thirty years' experience of political agitation and journalism, which brought him into connexion, especially during the earlier years of that period, with political refugees from almost every part of Europe." We do not for a moment profess to be able to pass judgment upon Mr. Frost's book chapter by chapter. Only a very peculiar course of reading could qualify any reviewer to do this. What we may hope to do is to form a clear opinion of his way of handling some one of the many topics he

takes up, and thence to estimate his capacity as an investigator and historian. For this purpose we will turn, if the reader has no objection, to the chapter on the Tugendbund.

The Tugendbund was an excellent subject for an historian. The current view of it is so vague and inexact, nay, so wholly mistaken and wrong, and at the same time the truth about it is now so easily attainable—if you only read German—that we expected to find Mr. Frost clearing away the popular delusion in a few brief pages, quoting Voigt, Baersch, and Pertz, and reducing the redoubtable Tugendbund to the insignificant and childish affair it really was. We regret to say that we have been disappointed. Mr. Frost repeats all the popular errors and exaggerates them. We suspect that he has read nothing of German authorship on the subject except a few well-known books which have been translated into English, and we see plainly that he not only has no accurate information upon the Tugendbund itself, but that he has no clear knowledge of the history of Germany at the time of the Tugendbund. The whole chapter, in fact, consists of a few trite anecdotes strung together upon a thread of narrative which, wherever it is not empty verbiage, is untrue. We are fortunately able to substantiate this strong statement without detaining the reader long, for Mr. Frost has concentrated into a single choice paragraph almost all the blunders which it was possible to make upon the subject. It is as follows:—

"The nucleus of the Association which Stein devised for this purpose, and which received the name of the Tugendbund or League of Virtue, was formed during the latter months of 1807. His colleagues, Hardenberg and Scharnhorst, Generals Wittgenstein and Blucher, Jahn, a Professor of the Berlin Gymnasium, and Arndt, the popular author, were among the earliest members. The initiations multiplied rapidly, and the League soon numbered in its ranks most of the Councillors of State, many officers of the army, and a considerable number of the professors of literature and science. By the active and zealous exertions of Stein, Hardenberg, and Jahn, its ramifications spread quickly from the Baltic to the Elbe, and all classes were drawn within its influence. A central directorate at Berlin, presided over by Stein, had the supreme control of the movement, and exercised, through provincial committees, an authority all the more potent for emanating from an unknown source, and which was obeyed as implicitly as the decrees of emperor and king."

It is difficult after reading this to avoid breaking out as Prince Hal does after listening to Falstaff's tale, in which "eleven men grew out of two." At least we may say what the Prince says when he has recovered himself a little, "Mark how a plain tale shall make thee blush." The Association then was *not* formed during the latter months of 1807, but in April, 1808. It received the name *not* of Tugendbund, but of Moral and Scientific Union, though no doubt the other name soon came into use. Hardenberg was *not* at that time a colleague of Stein's; and of the six persons Mr. Frost names among the earliest members, not a single one was really such. (The reader may think this incredible, but we have before us the list of the earliest members, ten in number, given by Krug, and confirmed by Baersch, who was himself among them. Not one of Mr. Frost's names is found in it, and as for Arndt we know from his 'Erinnerungen' that he was in Sweden from 1806 to

1809.) The initiations did *not* multiply rapidly, except within the province of Prussia, and after a time in Silesia, and what success it had was *not* due to Stein, Hardenberg, or Jahn, but to quite different people, particularly a certain Bardeleben. As to the central directorate at Berlin presided over by Stein, it is a remarkable fact that no *Loge* of the Tugendbund was ever established at Berlin. Stein, as we shall see directly, could not have presided over any assembly belonging to the Association; but, if he had, it could not have been at Berlin, for Stein was at that time with the King at Königsberg, and never afterwards during the existence of the Tugendbund visited Berlin, except once for a few days. As to its "great authority emanating from an unknown source," the government was informed of the statutes of the Tugendbund and of all the members that joined it, and received a quarterly report of its proceedings. These proceedings were quite harmless, but, at the same time, very unimportant.

We have now denied every distinct statement contained in this paragraph except one, and that statement is the most untrue of all. It is the statement that Stein devised the institution. No doubt we shall take Mr. Frost's breath away, for it is evident from every line of this chapter that he is not aware that Stein's connexion with the Tugendbund has ever been denied or questioned. Accordingly, he knows precisely what course of reflection led Stein to form the plan and to determine to realize it:—

"Stein, the Prussian Prime Minister, conceived the idea of spreading over Germany a network of secret societies, by the agency of which the people should be prepared for a struggle, when the time should seem opportune for the liberation of the Fatherland. He saw no hope for the country unless a new spirit could be infused into the people, no means so sure as that which he contemplated for accomplishing that work."

Yet Stein declared solemnly to his biographer, Pertz, "I never took part in it. I thought it impractical, and in practice it sank into vulgarity." And again, in his autobiographical sketch, where he treats of the matter with studied precision of language, he says "he was no more the founder than he was a member of the Tugendbund, as he could assert upon his honour, and as was well known to its originators." He goes on to say that he disapproved of it, and that he never took notice of its proceedings except once, when he interfered to thwart them. If there were the smallest reason to suspect the veracity of Stein, who, indeed, was one of the most reckless truth-tellers that ever lived, we might remark that Voigt, who has written an account of the Tugendbund from the documents of the Society, declares that these documents fully bear out his assertion, that they show Stein to have been "rather unfavourably than favourably disposed to the Society, and that he does not seem to have had the smallest share, even indirectly, in originating it."

We could show, if we had space, how the popular misapprehension on this subject grew up. In truth, the error as it exists in the public mind is nothing like so gross as it appears in Mr. Frost's book. For the public may be excused for using the word Tugendbund somewhat loosely, and if they merely mean to say that a number of discontented

men in Prussia, who were planning a rising against Napoleon, looked up to Stein as their head, they are not wrong. But if we could fancy for a moment that Mr. Frost meant no more than this, he has himself expressly cautioned us against the mistake. He tells us in his Preface that "before his work could even be commenced, it was necessary to have a clearly defined view of the elements which constitute a Secret Society." It is not, he says, "any combination of individuals whose proceedings are conducted in secret," nor "will it suffice for the purpose to add to secrecy the further definition that the object of the combination must be political." On these principles he denies that the National Charter Association was at any time a Secret Society, for he says he has known some of the members of it, and "though informed by them of the objects and plans of the conspirators, never heard the slightest allusion to an oath of secrecy and fidelity, an initiatory ceremony, symbols, pass-words, grips, or any other of the distinctive marks of a Secret Society." By these words Mr. Frost closes against himself all subterfuge. The discontented party, which in 1808 stood in connexion with Stein, had none of these distinctive marks; they could not even be said to form a society, much less a Secret Society, for they had no habit of meeting or acting together. On the other hand, a society existed which had some of these distinctive marks; this was "the Moral and Scientific Union," commonly called the Tugendbund; but with this Society it appears that Stein had no connexion.

In truth Mr. Frost's Tugendbund is as completely unhistorical as King Arthur's Round Table. The poor, little, well-meant hobby of Bardeleben, which, moreover—as our author evidently has never heard even by report—was abolished by an express interference of Government before the War of Liberation, is here idealized into something as grand as the Order of Jesuits. It is in fact used as another name for German patriotism down to the fall of Napoleon, and for German Liberalism in the first years of the peace. Arndt in Russia, Gruner at Prague, Scharnhorst at Berlin, merely carry out the orders of the Tugendbund; the Tugendbund plans and directs the War of Liberation. Fichte is its philosopher, Körner its poet. With the expulsion of Napoleon from Germany, we are told, the "first part of the programme of the Tugendbund was now accomplished." At Vienna, and in the political agitations after the peace, we are given to understand the second part was attempted to be realized. But this time the Governments were too strong. All it could do was to murder Kotzebue; soon afterwards, we learn in the vaguest hints, it sank under the persecution of the Government, and ceased to exist. It is possible that forty years ago some Germans may have really believed this romance, and imagined that, in the great movements of the age before, a Secret Society had pulled the wires. They had the excuse that the facts had not then been published, but now that they have been long before the world—now that it has been shown that no Secret Society was at work either in the War of Liberation, or in the first movements of German Liberalism, and that the Tugendbund, having lived long enough to evince by its futility

and feebleness the inaptitude of the Germans for conspiracy, had ceased to exist before the War of Liberation began—what excuse has Mr. Frost for composing a history of the Tugendbund, not from the authentic sources, which are now open, but from the long-exploded rumours that prevailed before the truth was known?

The principal fault of this unfortunate chapter, no doubt, is that almost everything which it tells us about the Tugendbund is false. Yet, if all these errors were corrected, it would remain a singularly inaccurate production, so many are the blunders in general history that it contains. We are told, for instance, that, in consequence of "the crushing disasters of Jena, Eylau, and Friedland, and the humiliating Treaty of Tilsit, a heavy and ominous cloud settled upon the German mind"; from which it would appear that Eylau was one of Napoleon's great victories, and a victory over the Germans! The story of Stein's intercepted letter is told with a number of details which are partly unauthenticated, partly untrue; and then we learn that "Stein immediately resigned, and was succeeded by Hardenberg." The truth is that, instead of immediately resigning, Stein continued in office for more than two months, and was blamed by his enemies for doing so; and that, when he resigned, his power was divided between Dohna and Altenstein, Hardenberg not returning to office till 1810. Just as untrue is the statement that Stein returned to office in Prussia in 1813, and was "dismissed from the King's Councils a second time [it would have been a third time] at the Peace." The reader should understand that all the blunders we have pointed out are collected into a single chapter of twenty-eight pages. We doubt if we have seen anything similar before in print; in *manuscript* we have read many similar narrations. In the history paper of some pass-examination, if the question were proposed, What was the Tugendbund? the unhappy examiner would certainly have to wade through several compositions very similar to the one before us. Some anxious candidate, too conscious that his mind was a blank on the subject of the Tugendbund, but in no condition to throw away the slightest chance of marks, would send up an answer almost exactly like that which Mr. Frost has laid before the public as a contribution to history. He would write desperately on, introducing every slightest fact he had ever heard, or fancied he had heard, if not about the Tugendbund, then about something else that belongs to the same age and country,—the War of Liberation, say, or the Congress of Vienna. Everything he knew about Stein he would think it safe to introduce, because Stein was the founder of the Tugendbund (only he was not), and in extreme need there is Napoleon to fall back upon, or Secret Societies in general.

If our readers ask, What about the rest of the book? we must confess that this specimen has entirely extinguished our curiosity. Is it worth while to sift all the statements of a writer who has been shown, by one sufficient sample, to have no sense of the responsibilities of an historian? But there is a chance that the whole book may not be equally bad. We suspect that Mr. Frost has but a slight smattering of German, and therefore could not consult the proper authorities on the Tugend-

bund. Where he does not labour under the same difficulty he may do better. Those, therefore, who may still have the courage to trust themselves to his guidance, will do well to read, by preference, the chapter on the United Irishmen; and after that, the chapters on the Secret Societies of France.

Shooting and Fishing Trips in England, France, Alsace, Belgium, Holland, and Bavaria. By "Wildfowler," "Snapshot." 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

SEA-FISHING is a sport which year by year is rising into greater importance. Trout-streams are jealously preserved all over the country, and the rental of a salmon-river is prohibitory, save to millionnaires, so that fishermen naturally attempt to find at sea a substitute for river-fishing. Bass-fishing is reported to be as good sport as salmon-fishing; it may be pursued from any promontory or pier, and the fish run to ten or fourteen pounds. The only drawback is, as we can testify from personal experience, that, save in exceptional circumstances,—an ebbing tide and dull stormy weather,—bass will not look at a fly. The tyro must turn, however, for information on bass-fishing to Wilcocks and Lambton Young. "Wildfowler" flies at lower game—the natives of our estuaries and such fish as are ordinarily taken off the Kentish and Sussex coasts, pollack, dabs, congers, bream, gurnards, plaice, and other flat-fish. He even condescends to shrimping upon occasions, and waxes enthusiastic over its economic results. His happy frame of mind, whether fortunate or the reverse, proves that the inland followers of Walton can by no means lay claim to a monopoly of patience and contentment. For a sea-fisher must make up his mind to many disagreeables. Rough weather may suddenly come on and stop his fishing, besides proving disquieting to his inner man. He is certain to get wet, cold, and dirty. At one place, after anchoring with some difficulty, dog-fish will tear the bait off his hooks, regardless if taken themselves, and necessitate a removal. At the next locality, crabs will suck off the bait as soon as it is put out. A third place is entirely barren of fish, or a huge conger will snap the lines like packthread. Does he try the trawl? Fortune sends him a quantity of small flat-fish, much rubbish, weed, anemones, and the like, and perhaps one good-sized whiting. As likely as not, at the next haul, there is a long rent in the net, and then all but the smallest fish escape. At the outset of his trip, a preliminary difficulty is apt to occur. No bait has been provided, and the lads of the seaside evince no alacrity in procuring it. Rest and the fatalistic assumption,—“fish and bait are scarce,”—appear to be natural to boatmen on all our coasts. When these difficulties are overcome, "Wildfowler" serenely rows out to his anchorage, and generally manages to catch a heavy basket of fish. He does not disdain new lights, unlike the coast boatmen, who year after year may be found adhering to their traditional fishing lines, and very slow to learn by experience. For instance, they everywhere persist in running a crosspiece of stout wire, armed with loops, gut, and hooks at each of its extremities, through the leaden weight on the line. A little consideration will show that all the most delicate bites must

escape the notice of the fisherman under this system. We were lately fishing with this kind of tackle for cod in the North Sea; the sailors of the yacht, who were many of them recruited from the Grimsby smacks which trawl off the Dogger Bank, from long experience caught many fine cod; but the visitors on board, being unable to use the rough tackle, could not succeed in hooking a fish. "Wildfowler's" remarks on this are, therefore, worth bearing in mind by sea-fishers:—

"I manage somewhat differently. I rig my line with a weight more or less heavy, according to the state of the tide, the depth of water, and the strength of the stream, and just above the weight I fasten a long piece of whalebone, at each end of which I secure my snoods and hooks. Now, whenever there is a bite, the wriggling is instantly felt by the hand, and you give the line a lift at once, which instantly secures your fish; whereas, by the other mode of line, before you feel anything the fish must have hooked itself so irretrievably that his motions actually shake the lead of your line. This is not artistic fishing. I like to feel, when I hold my line, as though it were a telegraph wire, so that where it touches my hand I am told all that goes on at the bottom."

Sea-fishing, we are again reminded, speedily rusts out the best of fish-hooks, so that the tackle must be frequently inspected. Rough weather should be avoided for fishing at sea, while it is the best time for shore-shooting. A capital mode of treating the slips of skin cut from mackerel, which are so enticing to the natives of the deep, is described at length in "Wildfowler's" pages. For these and the like hints this book is much to be commended to the practical sea-fisher. The scenes, too, of his fishing lie close at hand. Any hard-worked Londoner, fond of the sport, will gather stores of experience from his proceedings at Ramsgate, Herne Bay, Brighton, and the neighbouring watering-places. The instinct of catching is slightly too predominant in the book to suit the man who delights in the subsidiary pleasures connected with sea-fishing. We do not sniff the flying foam of the Atlantic as it chafes round the Western Isles of Scotland; no thunder from the ground-swells which have rolled from America to break on the Cornish cliffs reaches our ears in this book. The many artistic pleasures, aerial effects, picturesque wave-scenery, changeable cliff-colours, and the like, which form so enchanting a background to the memories of sea-fishing which live in most men's minds, are here unknown. Mud flats, crowded piers, passing steamers, these are the adjuncts of "Wildfowler's" sport. But then multitudes of men are devoted to this sort of sea-fishing, and here they will find a trustworthy manual. "Wildfowler" penetrates in one chapter to Kingstown and the Irish coast fishery, only to bewail, as must all who have looked into the case, the deplorable apathy of the seaside population. Their seas positively swarm with fish, and they are too indolent and unenterprising to take them.

Few amongst the sportsmen who love to tread the heather in August and the stubbles in September would wax enthusiastic over wildfowl-shooting in the long cold winter nights as described by our author. Not every one would care to face fogs and darkness in the rawest of weather, while crawling on patters over treacherous mudbanks, liable to be cut off by the incoming tide. Yet this is the scene chosen by those who wait for the

morning and eventide flights of winter-fowl on our estuaries and grassy foreshores, and amongst these aguish flats "Wildfowler" conducts his readers. At times he takes the duck-gun, or even those punt-guns which Hawker so carefully introduced to the notice of our fathers, and chapter after chapter is filled with his exploits amongst the ducks, redshanks, sandpipers, curlews, and herons on the Lincolnshire coast or in Poole Harbour and Bay. We observe he says nothing of stalking the golden plover, but there are few more pleasant occupations than circumventing these wary and toothsome birds in the grassy plains which, on the north-east coast of Lincolnshire, die away into far-reaching sands. In the great demand for free and accessible shooting which has of late years sprung up, "Wildfowler" has much benefited his brethren of the gun by pointing out the advantages or demerits of many different English localities. And of all kinds of shooting, general shooting, where a man is totally ignorant what bird or animal may next rise before him, is most to the mind of the true sportsman. He is then largely dependent upon his readiness of mental and bodily powers; the stimulus of expectation is added to the natural zest of shooting, and the working of his dogs and method of approaching the different birds which he is likely to find, make constant demands upon his acuteness. To the naturalist there can be no question which is more delightful, a walk over stubbles and through plantations where the game is semi-tame, or an adventurous ramble over bog and mountain, seaside and upland, at pleasure, where a variety of wild birds and creatures may be observed in native freedom, and the mind gain knowledge while the body drinks in health at every breath. Perhaps "Wildfowler" is somewhat liberal in the view he takes of game, as when we find him shooting moorhens with gusto; and when, on more than one occasion, he actually shoots starlings, he reminds us irresistibly of poor Leech's drawings, showing how *cher Eugène* followed the *chasse*, and returned in triumph with a miserable robin in his elaborate game-bag as *gibier*. Instead of recounting his success amongst lapwings, sandpipers, stints, and the like, the accompanying extract will give an idea of the practical nature of the book, though it shows a hand more used to the trigger than the pen:—

"The only time at which waiting for cocks is practicable is in the morning just after dawn of day, and in the evening just before night sets in. You need not remain at your post more than a quarter of an hour; in fact, no longer than the light lasts, for when once either daylight or darkness (as the case may be) has set in, farewell to sport, for no birds will pass. In the first case the light is too great for them, in the second it is too dark for you to shoot. If watching of a morning, face the pool, you will then see the birds as they come back to covert. If at night, face the covert, and they will pass over you on their way to the water. In both cases be quite ready, have your eyes on the alert, your brains on the *qui vive*, and your forefinger on the trigger, for none who have not tried it can imagine how swiftly the birds pass. A brown dot seems to have been suddenly created by a legerdemain trick, for you have heard no noise, you have not seen a leaf move nor a branch stir, and yet there is the bird just coming out of covert; then it comes so swiftly and so silently that you might fancy being in a dream; it was there, yonder; in the twinkling of an eye it is here, over your head, and lo! before you can think, it has passed."

The book contains several chapters on the free shooting amongst rabbits and wildfowl to be obtained round Boulogne and Wimereux. These are well worth the attention of the many English visitors, who would gladly combine a little shooting with the economical advantages of that district. Of course a *permis de chasse* is indispensable. It is also advisable to take a licence for shooting in those *communes* where game is not preserved by private owners of land. The sportsman must be cautious not to bring any English gunpowder with him, and to see that his passport is forthcoming if required. Full directions are given by "Wildfowler" on these and all other needful points, and under his guidance we assist at the shooting of many ducks and sandpipers. On one of these shooting trips, however, two kingfishers are seen flying towards our sportsman. His eyes flash, and he handles his gun eagerly. Can he be about to shoot them? Wantonly to shoot two of the most beautiful and innocent of Western European birds, to say nothing of their being useless as food! Impossible! yet French habits have corrupted "Wildfowler," and here is the manner in which he glories in his prowess:—

"I quietly let them both come, and I allow the leader to go past me for twenty yards or so, then I floor him, and before the other, who has swerved across the bank on the report, can get away, as he is turning his flank to me, I fire, and he, too, rebounds on the mud."

This is a deed of which the veriest cockney would be ashamed, and which stigmatizes its author as a mere gunner, something below a pot hunter. It is much to be regretted that any educated man could permit himself to massacre birds which are most interesting to every lover of the country, and which were valueless to the shooter, from the mere lust of killing. Indeed, we wonder that the well-known sporting paper in which "Wildfowler's" sketches were originally published, could print this naïve confession. It points out the chief demerit of the book—an excessive love of slaughter, of shooting anything that flew or ran before its author, "peppering" whole flocks, and the like. Nothing is so repugnant to the true sportsman as inflicting needless pain; he would sooner cut off his right hand than be cruel or vindictive amongst the beasts or birds which minister to his love of excitement. Destroying life for amusement can only be justified when the creature is useful for food, and no unnecessary pang is inflicted in killing it. Yet our author, when fishing in the Thames estuary, because his bait was continually devoured by crabs, says, "in self-defence we had to haul up all which took our baits and kill them"; "nothing short of crab murder will rid you of them; so crash! would go our heels over their shells." This last summer we rowed out with a boatman to visit his crab-pots on the coast of Devon. He was much chagrined at finding almost every pot tenanted by spider-crabs, which had excluded the edible kind and eaten up all the bait, but without a word from us he merely extracted the worthless crabs, laid them unharmed in a corner of the boat, and dropped them into deep water at a safe distance from his fishing-ground. Which was the more humane of these two fishermen, and therefore the truer sportsman? Sting-fish are treated by "Wildfowler" in the same manner. These indica-

tions of recklessness in taking life mar the reader's enjoyment, and ought to have prepared us for the episode of the kingfishers. In the nursery rhyme—

A little cock-sparrow sat on a tree
Looking as happy as happy could be,

and is shot at, fortunately without being hit, by the boy with his bow and arrow. He would certainly not have fared so well had he been observed by "Wildfowler."

It is pleasant to turn from this painful aspect of the book to the capital chapters of sport on a rented shooting in Alsace. They are the cream of the book, and whether treating of rabbit-shooting, of waiting for woodcocks at night, shooting the wild boar or wolf, or of the methods employed by poachers to capture roe-deer and other game, manifest considerable descriptive power, while giving many wrinkles to all lovers of continental shooting. The method in which the *Dachshunds* are chosen, and their style of hunting, will interest all friends of sporting dogs; and the combat of the rough boar-hounds, Bull and Wolf, with a savage namesake of the latter, recalls many a picture of boar-hunts and maimed hounds painted by Snyders.

For the rest, we must refer readers to the book itself, only assuring them that they will find much varied matter in the way of wild shooting. The rough and ready shooting of Belgium, the duck and wild goose fowling practised in the marshes of Holland, and a battue with big game in Bavaria, are not the least amongst its attractions. These accounts are intermingled with much shrewd observation of national character, and related with such enthusiasm that all the old hunting spirit is fired within a sympathetic reader's veins. Matters must have altered in Alsatian sporting, we presume, since the Franco-German war. The adventures here told took place confessedly before it broke out, else Alsace is a Paradise to a man of moderate means who is yet fond of all kinds of wild sport. And as the question is continually being asked in every smoking-room and first-class railway carriage in the country, "Where can I obtain, at a small cost, shooting and fishing, either at home or tolerably close at hand?"—no better answer can be given than to refer the querists to these two volumes. They contain something for every taste short of the votaries of Highland sports. With them and their costly sport "Wildfowler" does not interfere.

It would be unjust to be severe upon the style in which this book is written, or to expect a treatise on the minor pleasures of dog and gun, and the capture, with coarse appliances, of sea-fish, to possess the attractions of lucid expression and knowledge of nature which are conspicuous in the sporting adventures of a St. John, a Kingsley, or a Knox; but affectation and egotism are faults which cannot be passed over, and they seriously deface this book. Much licence in recounting personal prowess is properly given to sportsmen and travellers, but the world scarcely cares to know, with regard to billiards,—“When it rains hard, and there is nothing else to be done, you should just see ‘Wildfowler’ in his shirt-sleeves, getting up his score like steam, when the balls favour him, and he is in his usual slice of luck”; the allusions to his own papers, too, and the mode in which a leading article praised them, are in singu-

larly bad taste. But his literary offences culminate in the affected circumlocutions and slang with which he thickly sprinkles his pages. A fat woman becomes with him "a stout member of the female persuasion"; a horse, "our live motive power." "The eventual erection" of houses sounds alarming, while what a "too accidental country" means, will pass the comprehension of some of his readers. In another passage, "Wildfowler" appears to fancy that the word "degustate" signifies to digest: "after you have masticated and degustated your bird," he says, forgetting that it is somewhat dangerous for ordinary people to venture upon the use of a polysyllable without consulting a dictionary. It is melancholy to reflect upon the number of sporting books which are disfigured by the use of this pretentious jargon, and the employment of the slang of the race-course and smoking-room. Lovers of their mother tongue instinctively recoil from such volumes. "Wildfowler," in falling into these snares, has managed to deface what would otherwise have proved as pleasant a record of shore-shooting and sea-fishing as any with which we are acquainted.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

By the Elbe. By Sarah Tytler. 3 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

The Shadow of the Sword. By Robert Buchanan. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

Maidenhood. By Mrs. Valentine. (Warne & Co.)

He Would be a Soldier: a Sketch. By R. Mountney Jephson. With Illustrations. (Bentley & Son.)

Isabel St. Clair. By Julia Addison. (Remington & Co.)

'BY THE ELBE' is an estimable work of a class that is rather common at present. A lady or gentleman, gifted with a more or less ready pen, happens to pass a few weeks or months in some well-known resort of tourists. It is, of course, impossible to write merely your own experiences under these circumstances,—though, by the way, those adventurous spirits who have penetrated as far as Italy do still now and then favour us with a personal narrative,—but the more usual method of utilizing the weeks spent in the capital of Seidlitz-stinking, or wherever it may be, is to write a novel, and bring all the characters, or as many of them as possible, to the spot endeared to you by reminiscences of holiday-making, and the consciousness that you have seen something that some at least of your neighbours have not. Miss Tytler's "Lieblingsort" in the present case is Dresden, whither stress of circumstances drives Mr. Carteret, an English squire, his wife, and three daughters, in search of opportunities for retrenchment. Dresden is so much frequented by English, that a regular style of Dresden "shop" has grown up in some quarters. The fact of having spent a "Long" or a winter in that artistic but dullish capital seems to admit to a kind of Freemasonry, the language of which may be heard in perfection at College high-tables and elsewhere during the months of November and December. No doubt those who are thus initiated will read with interest the adventures of the Carterets: how they went to Prague and Nuremberg; how they

attended "smoking concerts," and studied picture-galleries; finally, how the maidens, at least, of the family got married (or failed to do so) in the land of their exile. To others not so fortunate, 'By the Elbe,' among its other suggestions of Germany, will, we fear, in spite, or perhaps in consequence, of its many merits, suggest that expressive German word, "langweilig."

Mr. Buchanan's novel is of far other character than Miss Tytler's. Instead of her picture of an unexciting domestic life, in which the rejection of a suitor is the most momentous incident, we have a thrilling tale of battle, murder, and sudden death, with a little of the supernatural once or twice thrown in. The *motif* of the story is not by any means bad. A Breton conscript, among those levied to fill the vacant places which the Russian campaign left in the Grand Army, refuses to serve; not from cowardice, for he is represented as physically fearless, but from an instinctive horror of shedding blood. He manages to escape, and hide in caverns and dolmens, pursued by the gendarmes, and denounced by his friends. One or two, however, remain true, and he contrives to maintain his liberty until the first fall of Napoleon. The reaction of the Hundred Days unhinges his mind, and, as far as we can make out, for the end of the story is somewhat spasmodic, he survives, but only as an idiot. There is obviously an opportunity here for plenty of exciting narrative and some study of character. The latter element has, however, been neglected for the sake of the former; and though there are plenty of what are called on the stage "character-parts," as an old corporal with a wooden leg, a half-inspired, half-crazed hedge-schoolmaster, and so forth, we have little in the way of the development of character under the stirring events amid which the story lies. We fear that Mr. Buchanan has drawn on his imagination for Breton names. "Gwenfer" and "Derval," "Rohan" and "Ewen," could only be found, we should think, in a place boasting the very odd appellation of "Kromlaix"; and "Le Sieur" is not a title of noblemen, either in or out of Brittany. Nor is Mr. Buchanan always quite happy in his own tongue. "To raise the siege" means exactly the contrary of what he intends it to mean. Possibly the same might be said of "the microcosm potentially includes the macrocosm," only we have not the least idea what he does intend by that.

'Maidenhood' is a rather pretty story of some nice young ladies and their good mamma, and inculcates, by a contrast between two cousins, true-hearted, impetuous Kate and selfish, story-telling Flora, "the superiority of straightforwardness and honesty to the greatest personal or mental gifts without them." In short, it is the *virtus est bona res* of our boyhood, and the theme is gracefully illustrated. The fable of the dog with the bone is also exemplified; for Flora, grasping at too much, loses both her bones, and, for aught we know, may still be "going on," like the brook. We cannot pity her. Indeed, the only thing to be regretted in the tale is, that Edith, like all young persons of any piety, should perish of consumption.

A more amusing military novelette than Mr. Jephson's we have not read for some time. The hero of the "sketch" is Verisopht Boomer-shine, a home-bred youth, who is seized with

an irresistible desire to become a soldier. The young subaltern is a military Verdant Green, and he becomes immediately the butt of the mess. The fun and frolic are exaggerated, but the incidents are not impossible. The great charm of the sketch is that it is free from vulgarity.

'Isabel St. Clair' is hardly a novel for grown-up readers. A Royalist family in the time of Charles the Second, consisting of a mother and two exemplary children, a girl and a boy, turned out of their ancestral hall by the machinations of a wicked uncle, and then chance leading the girl into thrilling adventures, in which robbers, a haunted castle, a witch, and a lake of unfathomable depth all have some part,—materials such as these make an attractive story for young people. As is proper in such stories, everything comes right in the end; everybody finds everybody else just when least expected. A strange prisoner in the haunted castle turns out to be a good uncle, who helps to vindicate the cause of the oppressed; the bad uncle is killed by a fall from his horse, and the family is restored to its own once more. It is quite pleasing to come across a story of this kind, one which adds the charm of reality to the delightful surprises of a fairy tale. Miss Addison writes in a lady-like manner, and we cannot imagine a book better suited for reading aloud to children who are no longer satisfied with supernatural marvels.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Ouzel Galley; or, Notes from an Old Sea Log. By W. H. G. Kingston. With Illustrations by C. O. Murray. (Griffith & Farran.)

Snow-Shoes and Canoes; or, the Early Days of a Fur-Trader in Hudson's Bay Territory. With numerous illustrations. Same Author. (Sampson Low & Co.)

Hair-breadth Escapes; or, the Adventures of Three Boys in South Africa. With Eight Illustrations. By the Rev. H. C. Adams, M.A. (Griffith & Farran.)

Boy Mill. By Capt. Rice, R.E. With Illustrations in Fac-simile by E. G. F. H. (Hatchards.)

WHERE Mr. Kingston obtains the stock of adventures through which he takes his numerous heroes is a mystery. No sooner has he got one hero through a succession of dangers than out comes another volume, in which the reader knows, before he opens it, that another hero will have to undergo equal perils and equally narrow escapes. The tales are always well told, and those relating to the sea are related in a way that a landsman could never achieve.

'The Ouzel Galley' is not inferior to the other works of the same author. In 'Snow-Shoes and Canoes,' Mr. Kingston has forsaken the sea, and, we suppose, in consequence, is hardly so successful. Not that there are a less number of adventures, and the tale is well told; but there is a greater sameness in the reading, and, however exciting the pursuit of deer, buffaloes, bears, and wolves may be, boys do, as a rule, not relish it so much as a good chase after a pirate, or an action, or a gale of wind at sea. Nevertheless, as in all his books, Mr. Kingston inculcates steady perseverance, sobriety, and self-help, and, therefore, 'Snow-Shoes and Canoes' may be safely recommended. The illustrations in both works are above the average.

The third volume on our list contains in the Dedication an appeal to the public as inopportune as it is out of place in a boys' book; but, if the author had intimated that the proceeds of the sale of the work would be devoted to the object for which he makes the appeal, we could have forgiven him, however little the Diocesan College of Grahame-town might be benefited thereby. Of hair-breadth

escapes there are enough and to spare; they only require to be brought within the bounds of probability to be very fine ones. Here is a hair-breadth escape with a vengeance:—"At the same moment, he felt a strong pressure round his legs and waist, and perceived that he was enveloped in the coils of a large serpent, which was rapidly winding itself round his chest. A moment afterwards, the flat diamond-shaped head came in sight, the eyes glaring fiercely at him, and the saliva dropping from the open jaws. Ernest's arms were happily free, and he availed himself of the circumstance with the cool promptitude of his character. He glanced for a moment at the hatchet lying on the ground a few feet off; but he felt it would be impossible for him to stoop to pick it up. It must be a struggle of muscle against muscle. Thrusting out his right hand, he grasped the snake by the neck, at the same time shouting aloud for help. The creature no sooner felt its antagonist's grasp, than it turned its head, endeavouring to bite. Finding itself unable to seize Ernest's hand, it drew in its folds, aiming at his face. The lad in an instant found that his muscular power was not nearly equal to that of his enemy. He seized hold of his right wrist with his other hand, throwing the whole power of his frame into the effort, but in vain. Slowly, inch by inch, his sinews were compelled to yield. Inch by inch the horrid fangs came nearer and nearer to his face. With the strength of despair, he contrived to keep the reptile at bay for a few minutes longer; but his powers were fast failing him, and he expected every moment to feel the sharp teeth lacerating his flesh. Suddenly a shock seemed to be communicated to the monster's frame. The terrible grip of the folds relaxed, and the threatening head drooped lax and powerless." The dog bit the tail end of the snake; it was a deadly poisonous one, and measured some inches more than nineteen feet long!

'Boy Mill' is the story of a lad of good family, who, when a schoolboy, or rather a cadet at Woolwich, supposes he has killed a fellow-cadet in a duel, and runs away; and, at just about the middle of the work, assumes the name of "Boy Mill," and ships on board one of Her Majesty's ships. This is done in a most irregular manner, as also is all connected with Boy Mill's life on board the *Inconstant*; but, if our author is a little adrift on board ship, he is quite at home on the battle-field, and his description of Meane is graphic. One piece of advice may be tendered to Capt. Rice, R.E., and that is, not to be quite so severe on his brother-officers of sister services if he writes another book. Did he ever meet, either before or after the period of which he writes, such a caricature as his Capt. Blogg, of the Royal Marines, or three such nincompoops in society as he makes the three lieutenants, Royal Navy, at the table of the Governor of New South Wales? He does not elevate his own corps by taking such liberties, even in a Christmas book.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The *Calendar of the English Martyrs of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, with an Introduction by Thomas Graves Law, Priest of the Oratory (Burns & Oates), is a catalogue of the names of those unfortunate men and women who were put to death in England for their obstinate adherence to the Church of Rome, between the years 1535 and 1681. The names are arranged according to the days of the month on which the sufferers were executed, and the year and place of execution are added. Of course, the book is intended almost exclusively for the devout Catholic, but it is a convenient manual of reference for that rapidly increasing number of people who have begun to look into the history of the treatment which the partisans of the Church of Rome received at the hands of the English Government during the century and a half which closed with the hanging of Oliver Plunket, Archbishop of Armagh, at Tyburn, on the 1st of July, 1681. It is not a little significant that, while Fox's 'Book of

Martyrs' has become almost forgotten, and its testimony has come to be regarded with profound mistrust, the records of the sufferings of the "martyrs" of the other side have begun to be studied with increasing interest, and on examination prove to be singularly free from romance and exaggeration. Mr. Morris's 'Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers' have produced an effect which he and his co-religionists could hardly have anticipated at starting. Mr. Law's Introduction is written calmly and dispassionately, and gives in a few pages a very fair sketch of the dreadful persecution and detestable cruelties to which the seminary priests and those to whom they ministered were exposed for so long. They who are of Mr. Whalley's way of thinking may not like to be told that in Queen Elizabeth's reign two hundred and sixty people were put to death for saying mass and hearing mass alone, and that of these seventy-three were laymen, and three were women. Strike off, say ten per cent., for possible errors or exaggerations, and the reckoning is still a shockingly large one, but Mr. Law has done something to help those who care to look into the matter to find chapter and verse for the facts alleged.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE send us *From Cadet to Colonel, the Record of a Life of Active Service*, by Major-General Sir Thomas Seaton.—There is no announcement that this book is a reprint, but such is practically the fact, there being, with the exception of a few illustrations, but unimportant additions to the first and more expensive edition, which appeared about ten years ago. There is a melancholy interest in the publication of the work in its present form, arising from the fact that the author died not quite four months ago. He was a gallant and distinguished soldier, who saw much active service during his career in India, and his experiences are described in an extremely simple, yet natural, manner. Indeed it is one of the best books of its sort ever published. All who take an interest in India, all soldiers,—nay, all who love to read of courage and fortitude,—ought to read this book, which sets a fine example for the benefit of young officers who aspire to live like Sir Thomas Seaton.

SIR WILLIAM GREGORY, who is about to quit the governorship of Ceylon, some time ago organized a system for cataloguing the Pali, Sinhalese, and Sanskrit manuscripts in the public and monastic libraries of the island. The first instalment of the catalogue, comprising the MSS. in the Government Oriental Library, has reached us, and we are able to state that transcripts of any of the works therein mentioned may be obtained at a reasonable rate. Grammatical and historical literature are specially well represented; in the former we have noticed such rare and valuable works as *Cūlanirutti*, *Mahā*, and *Cūlasaddaniti*, *Mukhamattadipani*, and *Kaccāyanabhedatikā*. A still greater title to the gratitude of archaeologists Sir W. Gregory has earned by causing copies of all the ancient inscriptions in the island to be taken, with a view to their publication and eventual translation. Dr. P. Goldschmidt's preliminary Report, just issued, 'On the Inscriptions found in the North-Central Province and in the Hambantota District,' covers the periods from before the Christian era down to the Middle Ages. Both from a philological and an historical point of view his Report is of the utmost interest. We may also mention that that portion of the *Mahāvamsa* which was not included in Mr. G. Turnour's edition, viz., chapters 39 to 90, has now been printed at Colombo, so that the whole of the text is at last available to Pali scholars.

The new issue of the *London-Post Office Directory* has been sent us by Messrs. Kelly. The work yearly grows larger, and the inventions and follies of the day find their record here. M. de la Bastie has led to the appearance of a "Toughened Glass Manufacturer," and some twenty "Skating Rinks" have encouraged a "Skating Rink Instructor" to set up business. The work remains a model book of its kind, excellently arranged and carefully printed, and the editor has not allowed

himself to be overwhelmed by the enormous mass of materials that pour in upon him.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Theology.*
Bardsley's (Rev. J.) I will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord, 2/6
Brook's (Mrs. C.) Sunday Echoes on the Miracles, cr. 8vo. 6/4
Churchman's Companion, Vol. July to December, 1876, 4/4
Expositor (The), Vol. 4, 8vo. 7/6
Homilet, Vol. 2, Enlarged Editor's Series, cr. 8vo. 7/6
Leading Lights, a Scripture Daily Text-Book, 32mo. 1/6
M'Canland's (J. C.) Hope of Israel, 12mo. 3/6
M'Hardie's Fruit from Sabbath Schools, &c., 12mo. 1/6
Mahan's (Rev. Prof. A.) Life Thoughts on the Rest of Faith, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Mason's (A. J.) Persecution of Diocletian, 8vo. 10/6
Old Testament Commentary, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 4/4
Oxenden (Rev. A.) and Randsen's (Rev. C. H.) Family Prayer for Eight Weeks, large type, cr. 8vo. 6/4
Penny Post, Vol. 1876, 8vo. 1/3
Reed's (Rev. A.) Story of Christianity, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Sword and the Trowel, Vol. 1876, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Thoughts on the Letters of the Lord Jesus, by A. H. H. P., 2/4
Tregelles's (S. P.) Pastoral Relations, cr. 8vo. 2/4
Laws.
Lumley's (W. G.) Rivers' Pollution Prevention Act, 8vo. 2/6
Poetry.
Tennyson's Harold, a Drama, 12mo. 6/4
Music.
Bosanquet's (R. H. M.) Elementary Treatise on Musical Intervals and Temperament, 8vo. 6/4
Horsley's (C. E.) Text-Book of Harmony, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Fine Art and Archaeology.
Home Life in England, illustrated folio, 21/4
Jewitt (L.) and Hall's (S. C.) Stately Homes of England, 2nd series, roy. 8vo. 21/4
Parker's (J. H.) Archaeology of Rome, Part 8, 8vo. 15/4
Rimmer's (A.) Ancient Streets and Homesteads of England, illus. 8vo. 21/4
Tyler's (S.) Landseer's Dogs, and their Stories, sm. 4to. 10/6
History and Biography.
Bain (J.) and Roger's (Rev. C.) Liber Protocolorum, 2 vols. 8vo. 24/4
Shepherd (Miss), Memoir of, by Rev. B. Yates, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Geography.
Arnold's (A.) Through Persia by Caravan, 2 vols. 8vo. 28/4
Philology.
Euripides Hippolytus, with Notes by F. A. S. Freeland, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Heywood's (J.) Analysis Table of Grammar, on Roller, 6/4
Homer's Iliad, Homometrically trans. by C. B. Cayley, 12/6
Science.
Brown's (J. C.) Forests and Moisture, 8vo. 10/6
Campbell's (Lord G.) Log Letters of the Challenger, 12/6
Church (A. H.) On Food, 8vo. 3/4
Hamilton's (J.) History of British Fishes, 2 vols. 12mo. 9/4
Jardine's (Sir W.) Birds of Great Britain and Ireland, 4 vols. 12mo. 18/4
Jenkin's (F.) Elementary Treatise on Construction, &c., of Bridges, 4to. 5/4
Lee's (W.) Acoustics, Light, and Heat, 12mo. 2/6
Spencer's (H.) Principles of Sociology, Vol. 1, cr. 8vo. 21/4
Steel's (J. H.) Outlines of Equine Anatomy, cr. 8vo. 7/6
General Literature.
Alcott's (L. M.) Silver Pitchers, and other Stories, chp. ed. 3/6
Beveridge's (R.) Clara Ponsbury, cr. 8vo. 7/6
Blackmore's (R. D.) Cripps the Carrier, cr. 8vo. 6/4
Brands (S. L.) Dora, a Life Story, 12mo. 5/4
Browning's (Eliz. B.) Letters addressed to R. H. Horne, ed. by S. R. T. Mayer, 2 vols. 8vo. 21/4
Campbell's (Sir G.) Handy Book on the Eastern Question, 6/4
Comyn's (A.) Love the Leveller, cr. 8vo. 7/4
Cross's (J.) Resurrection, What is it? cr. 8vo. 3/6
D'Anvers's (N.) Dobbie and Dobbie's Master, 12mo. 2/6
David Lloyd's Last Will, by Hebe Stretton, 12mo. 2/6
Day of Rest, Vol. 4, 7/4
De Worms' Baron H. England's Policy in the East, 8vo. 5/4
Dickey-Birds, by R. Henry, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Dodge's (M. M.) Theophilus and others, cheap ed. 12mo. 3/6
Drummond's (M.) Tripp's Buildings, 12mo. 3/6
Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 5, 4to. 30/4
Farjeon's (B. L.) At the Sign of the Silver Flagon, cr. 8vo. 2/4
Fleming's (Rev. J.) The Saints in Sunshine, 12mo. 1/6
Garside's (F.) Adventures of Tom Hanson, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Good Stories, Vol. 1876, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Hardy's (L. D.) Glencairn, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6
Hood's (E. P.) Romance of Biography, cr. 8vo. 5/4
How Jack Got into Trouble, 12mo. 2/4
It Might Have Been, a Novel, by the Author of 'Tit for Tat,' 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6
Jephson's (R. M.) He Would be a Soldier, cr. 8vo. 6/4
Melbourne House, and its Sequel, Daisy, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Mercy Philbrick's Choice, cheap ed. 12mo. 3/6
Monthly Packet, Vol. 22, 8vo. 7/4; with Christmas Number, 9/4
More's (Miss S.) Pretty Polly, 4to. 3/6
Myra's Annual Album, imp. 4to. 2/6
Nearne's (E. J.) Catherine Morford, 12mo. 1/6
Nicola's (A.) The Puzzle of Life, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Old Old Story, with Outline Illustrations, by H. I. A. Miles, 1/6
Parish Magazine, Vol. 1876, 8vo. 2/4
Fennel Vol., 8vo. 2/6
Polka's (E.) Musical Tales, 2nd series, cr. 8vo. 7/6
Ritchie's (J. E.) On the Track of the Pilgrim Fathers, 7/6
School Magazine, edited by J. D. Morsell, Vol. 1, 12mo. 4/6
Skinner's (T.) Stock Exchange Year-Book, 1877, 8vo. 5/4
Strahan's Boys and Girls' Annual: Good Things, Vol. 1876, roy. 8vo. 7/6
Temple Bar, Vol. 48, 8vo. 5/6
Thackeray's (Miss) Miss Angel, cr. 8vo. 6/4
Thomas's (A.) Blotted Out, 12mo. 2/6 (Select Library of Fiction.)
Vagabond Charlie, by Vagabond, cr. 8vo. 7/6
Verne's (J.) Michael Strogoff, cr. 8vo. 10/6
Voyage (The) of Life, by a Sea Captain, cr. 8vo. 5/4
Waverley's (Lord) Forty Years Since, or Italy and Rome, 2/6

Webster's Dictionary of Quotations, cr. Svo. 3/6 cl.
Weekly Welcome, 1876, imp. 4to. 7/6 cl.
Yonge's (C. M.) Womankind, cr. Svo. 7/6 cl.

THE MOABITE STONE.

THE Palestine Exploration Fund has published a photograph of the restored Moabite Stone, from a cast presented to the Association by the Louvre authorities. We have not as yet had time to examine minutely M. Ganneau's filling up of the lacunæ. We cannot, however, refrain from alluding to some glaring inconsistencies. The restoration professes to be from a squeeze of the stone made by Selim before it was broken up. Now, according to this squeeze, M. Ganneau made the cast round at the top and straight at the bottom, whereas we ourselves possess the sketch most carefully made on the spot by Mr. Klein when he discovered the stone, which is round both at the top and bottom. When at Dibon, and discussing the subject with Mr. Klein on the spot where the stone had been lying, he again and again assured us that the sketch roughly, but most faithfully, represents the form of the stone. The squeeze made by Selim must therefore be imperfect, and hence cannot always be trusted.

In confirmation of this conclusion, we allude to the fact that Dr. von Niemeier, the Imperial German dragoman at Jerusalem, was fortunate enough to obtain a missing fragment from Sheikh Gemil abu Nuzér since the publication of the restoration by the French authorities. The fragment contains the end of lines three and four of the inscription, viz.,

הה | נ
ל | עב

which, when filled up, yields the words—

בקרחה |
בכל שני

Now, in looking closely at the fragment, and comparing it with the restoration which is made from the squeeze, it will be seen that the letters in question do not occupy exactly the position in the restoration as in the original fragment.

For these reasons we must withhold our absolute confidence in the squeeze which guided M. Ganneau in his restoration of this famous inscription. Indeed, it seems somewhat strange that, though M. Ganneau has published several recensions of the inscription, he has never published the squeeze itself, which is the clue to the restoration, and the examination of which would enable scholars to test the accuracy of the restoration. Until a photograph of the squeeze itself is published, there will always be room for scepticism in the absolute correctness of his filling up of the lacunæ.

CHRISTIAN D. GINSBURG.

PROF. KÖCHLY.

GERMAN philology has again sustained a great loss. On the 9th of November Fr. Ritschl died at Leipzig, and on the 2nd of December Hermann Köchly died at Trieste, far away from his pleasant villa on the green slope of the Neckar hills. It had long been his ardent wish to visit the native soil of that people, the creations of whose mind had been from his youth the object of his study and admiration. His wish was at last gratified when he had reached his sixty-second year. The hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen, who, during his university studies in Heidelberg, had learnt to venerate Köchly as a teacher, and to esteem him as a friend, and who was never tired of showing his gratitude, invited Köchly to join him on a tour through Greece last autumn. The Professor, though his health was somewhat impaired by a painful internal disease a few years before, thought himself sufficiently recovered to undertake the journey. But, unaccustomed to bear the privations and fatigues inseparable from a ride through a country almost destitute of roads, he literally broke down on the field of Mantinea, and was with difficulty transported to Athens. His kind friend stayed by him and brought him to Trieste, where he was met by his wife and son. Here he lingered a few days, and died, like one

returning from a pilgrimage, where he had worshipped at the shrines he had venerated all his life. His death was calm and peaceful.

Not so had been his life. It was unlike that of most literary men, whose study is their world. Though a hard and persevering student, he never lost sight of what was going on around him. His ambition was to produce some tangible good, especially to improve the system of public teaching, and thus to adapt the study of classical literature to the exigencies of the present time. Though himself a first-rate Latin writer, and able to speak Latin almost as fluently and as correctly as his native German, he would not claim for classical studies of the old kind the exclusive monopoly of education. In Dresden, where he was teacher at a gymnasium, he founded a society for school reform, and published a series of pamphlets on this subject. The political movement of 1848 came to his aid by bearing down the resistance of the men in authority, and by clearing the field for reform. Köchly had, even before 1848, been elected a member of the Saxon Legislature. He was thus a public man when the Revolution began. He unavoidably became one of its leaders. When the Dresden barricades had been carried by the Prussian Guards (May, 1849), Köchly found a refuge in Belgium, and in 1850 was offered the professorship of classical literature at Zürich. He henceforward devoted himself to the higher class of teaching and to literary labours, without losing sight, however, of his reforms in education. He had, even at Dresden, given proofs of good scholarship. Now he showed that he could rank with the most accomplished philologists of Germany. No year passed without something valuable from his pen, treatises on the Homeric poems, on the Greek drama, translations or editions of Greek or Latin writers, such as Quintus Smyrnaeus, Nonnus, Pseudo-Manetho, Musæus, Demosthenes, Cicero, Cæsar. Special notice deserves his work on ancient tactics, and his edition of the Greek tactical writers, which he published in conjunction with W. Rüstow.

As in all his studies of the classical world Köchly tried to find the modern equivalent for the institutions and works of the ancients—as he was never satisfied with rendering words by words, but endeavoured to discover the real substance indicated by the words—so in his tactical studies he reconstructed the ancient weapons of war, and drilled *lochoi* and *maniples* to march and fight to the ancient word of command. On another field it was one of his last pleasures to reproduce before a select audience an Æschylan tragedy, with choral music in the spirit of classical simplicity and grandeur.

In 1864 Köchly was called to Heidelberg. He devoted himself entirely to the duties of his office, and contributed in no slight degree to raising the standard of philological studies in Heidelberg and in Baden generally. One of his latest publications was a labour of love, the life of his teacher, Gottfried Hermann.

His sudden death has cut short his career. But it was not a sad or painful death. When the darkness of the grave was settling on his mind, and clouding his intellect, his incoherent and abrupt words were snatches from favourite Greek poets, and he was moving again, in the spirit, on the bright fields of Greece, which to see with his bodily eye was the last joy of his life.

W. IHNE.

KAISAR-I-HIND.

Dec. 8, 1876.

I AM sorry that I should have incurred the blame of having expressed myself in my last "Note" "somewhat triumphantly." Nothing of the sort was meant by me. On all questions of fact between us, as to the use of *Shri* as a titular affix, the gender of *Sultan* as applied to the Sultana Rezia when Sultan of Delhi, and Eastern usage generally in the style of female sovereigns, I can assure Prof. Mir Aulad Ali, I am quite open to conviction, and ready to own myself wrong, when once convinced of it. I should, of course, be of the same opinion still, as to the prac-

tical soundness of the official translation of the Queen's new title which has been adopted in India. I believe, indeed, that it creates no new exception to any old rule of Oriental grammar, and that it is perfectly consistent with Eastern usage, as we would all rather have it. But even if it should flutter the pedantry of oriental grammarians, and be found as contrary to "Eastern ideas" as I believe it to be in harmony with them, *Kaisar-i-Hind*—in Hindi, *Hind-ka-Kaisar*—would still in my opinion (grounded on historical and political instincts) be a splendid translation, or equivalent (and it more than equals the original in vigour, worth, and import) for "Empress of India." It is a great hit; and "mala grammatica non vitiat chartam"—if bad grammar there be in it. I must not quote "cedunt grammatici," for fear of the retort.

A. As to *Shri*, Prof. Mir Aulad Ali says that I did not suggest *Shri* before *Rani*, which he acknowledges "is not at all a bad affix," but before *Kaisar*. I expressly suggested it before *Rani*, and never before *Kaisar*. I have all along consistently said that I would not myself have attempted to translate the new title of "Empress of India"; that I would, had it been possible, have preferred "Queen" untranslated; that the puzzle how to translate it seemed insoluble until *Kaisar-i-Hind* was suggested; and that had this title only been thought of before, there would have been no need at all of a Royal Titles Bill. But, as to *Shri-Kaisar-i-Hind*, the incongruous phrase will, all the same, be in every Hindu mouth before another year is out. Scindia has already toasted the Queen as *Kaishwar-i-Hind*—*Divus Cæsar*; and the masses of the Hindu populations are almost sure to say *Shri-Kaisar*, and the philologists will have to digest it. Prof. Mir Aulad Ali perverts my meaning a little, when he says that my reason for suggesting *Shri* before *Rani* is—quoting my own words *verbatim*—"because it is one of his Highness the Maharaja of Patiala's titles." But my context shows that it was not in imitation, and apparently emulous imitation, of the Maharaja's title that I suggested *Shri* before *Rani* also. Above all, I was guided by the unimpeachable example of the most ancient Hindu inscriptions. I was guided, moreover, by the fact that the word is applied in Bombay to deceased and *quasi*-deified ancestors; and I was simply led to see that it was not an inappropriate affix to the title of a modern and living sovereign, from the fact of its being used in the royal style of the Maharajah of Patiala. I might have also added the precedents of "his Highness *Shri* Palmanaba Das Vunchi Bala Rama Sultan [mark the mixture of languages] Maharaja Raj Ram Raja Bahadur Shumshir Jung, G.C.S.I., of Travancore; and of "his Highness Maharaja Adiraja Mirza [the mixture of languages again] Maharao Shri Pragmulgi Bahadur, G.C.S.I., of Kutch. I translate *Maharaj Adiraja, Shri-Shri-Rani*, Victoria, *Kaisar-i-Hind*—"Great sovereign over sovereign, the consecrated Queen, Victoria, Empress of India."

B. As to the gender of female masculine titles of rank, office, dignity, and power in the East, Prof. Mir Aulad says that such words as *Navab*, *Sultan*, and *Padshah* "have become very elastic, and have no exclusive gender." Is not, therefore, the gender in which they are used to be determined by usage, rather than by the rules of grammar? Prof. Mir Aulad Ali says, indeed, that the gender of the nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and post-positions used with them show the gender in which they are used. But we say, "Our Queen and Governour"; and yet the nouns, pronouns, &c., we use with masculine "Governour" are all feminine. But I am quite incompetent to deal with Prof. Mir Aulad Ali's grammatical arguments. I rely on usage; and Prof. Mir Aulad Ali has, in the instance of the *Sultan(a)* Rezia [see Γ], a far more difficult argument to deal with than he thinks. All I can rely on under the grammatical head is that *Kaisar-i-Hind* and *Hind-ka-Kaisar*, and not *Hind-ki-Kaisar*, in Hindi, have been adopted as the official translation of Empress of India on the advice of some of the best Sanscrit and Oriental

scholars living, both Eastern and Western, English and Continental.

I. The precedent of the Sultan Rezia Prof. Mir Aulad Ali dismisses with the double-headed but pointless sneer,—"this pretentious woman (daughter of a slave)." It would be even less pointless to sneer at "Æsop the slave," or Epictetus the "new-bought slave"; and it is incomprehensible that a gentleman who is an Oriental and a Mohammedan, and must know all about "the Slave Dynasties" of Islam, should sneer at King Altmash as "a slave," although it is easy to comprehend the sneer at the "Slave-King's" beautiful and accomplished daughter, the most energetic and skilful ruler of "the First Slave Dynasty" of India. It was a common practice with Mohammedan rulers to adopt as their successors young slaves taken in war, and generally of noble extraction. They married them to their daughters, or sisters, or aunts, and did it to keep up the breed of the dynasty, and in this way arose the many dynasties of "Slave-Kings" known in the secular history of Islam. Alptegin, a nobleman of Bokhara, was the Turki slave of Abdulmelik, and the founder of the Gaznivid dynasty; and was succeeded by his Turki slave Sabuktegin, the father of Mahmoud of Gazni. The Gaznivid power in Persia was overthrown by Togrel Beg, the grandson of Seljuk, and the thirty-sixth in lineal descent from King Alfrasiab. Gazni was actually destroyed by Allaiddin Ghor, brother of Kutbuddin Sur, the Prince of Ghor, who was murdered by Beiram, one of Mahmoud's feeble descendants; and the last of the Gaznvids was dethroned and put to death by Mohammed Ghor, the nephew of Allaiddin Ghor. This Mohammed is the real founder of the Mohammedan dominion in India (A.D. 1186); and on his death one of his adopted slaves seized on Kandahar, and the other Kutbuddin on Delhi, and Kutbuddin [who gives his name to the Kutb Minar] was the first independent Mohammedan ruler of Delhi, and the founder of "the First Slave Dynasty of India." He married his daughter to one of his slaves and successor, Altmash, whose name means "sixty," because Kutb paid sixty pieces of silver for him; and the successor of King Altmash was his daughter, the Sultana Rezia, the loveliest and most learned woman of her age, and the most accomplished and distinguished ruler of the "Slave-Kings of Delhi"; and it is of this noble Queen and of King Altmash, her father, that Prof. Mir Aulad Ali can write, "this pretentious woman (daughter of a slave)." Well, when the Sultana Rezia succeeded to the throne, she not only dropped the title of Sultana, and assumed that of Sultan, but she also discarded the habiliments of her sex, and adopted male attire; and daily, in open court, administered her kingdom dressed in the cap and tunic of a man. It may be quite true in grammar that the word *Sultan*, and the like of it, "has no regular gender." But, in view of the fact that female titles in India and the East always imply inferiority, and of the habitual practice in the East of applying male titles to sovereign females, and of the adoption of man's clothes by *Sultan(a)* Rezia, there can be no manner of doubt that the title of *Sultan* was assumed by, and applied to, her in a masculine sense, however elastic and inclusive it may be in gender. But, though she died long before the word was born, it must be acknowledged she was altogether feminine in her love of flirtation, and suffered much of the inscrutable and impertinent and altogether feminine consequences in which it so often involved this "Sweet Sultan"; unless, indeed, those stories of her folly, which have, no doubt, prejudiced Prof. Mir Aulad Ali, are but the scandal which "waits on greatest state." It is to be noted of the late Nawab Sikander Begum, of Bhopal, also, that, on the death of her husband, Jehanghir Mohammed Khan, rejecting the jealous Mohammedan custom of the purdah, she presented herself dressed as a man, and seated on horseback, before the people of Bhopal, determined to be some day Nawab. To the last she affected a masculine fashion of dress; and I do not doubt myself that she would have

spurned with "foul scorn" any grammatical doubt of the masculine gender of the title by which she ruled—"Ay, every inch a king!" Neither can I doubt that *Padshah*, as applied by the Turks and Persians to the Empress Catherine and Queen Victoria, is of the masculine gender, or, at least, is applied exclusively in the masculine sense. The Sultans of Turkey have always been most jealous of bestowing this title on other sovereigns; and it was substituted by the Persian Court in 1839 for *Malika*, expressly because the latter feminine title was inapplicable to a reigning Queen. It seems to me, indeed, that Prof. Mir Aulad Ali might as well argue that *Rez*, as applied to the Empress Maria Theresa, is feminine, as that *Padshah*, *Nawab*, and *Sultan*, in any of the instances above cited, are feminine, or, at least, as that *Sultan* is feminine in the case of the *Sultan(a)* Rezia. And I cannot accept the unsupported authority to the contrary of one who, last week, wrote, without reserve or qualification of any sort, that "a purely masculine title, applied to the Queen, can have no reasonable excuse," and "surpasses all in absurdity,—at least, according to our Eastern idea,"—and who to-day stigmatises *Sultan(a)* Rezia and her royal father as "this pretentious woman (daughter of a slave)."

In conclusion, he says that, in the Maharaja of Patiala's titles, "there are no words which could ever mean 'favoured child.'" If he had said "no word" occurs which means "child," he would have been literally correct; but is not "favoured (child) of the English" the obvious meaning of *Dowlat-i-Inglishi*? At least, it is the authorized official version of it. Again, he says of *Zilla Subanahu* = *Zill-Allah Subanahu* that the title does not exist, and that there is nothing in it signifying "earth." It is the title proposed by the Talukdars of Oude, on the 8th of December, 1873. It means, strictly, "the Glorified Shadow of God," and, as applied to Queen Victoria, of course, "on Earth." Prof. Mir Aulad Ali translates his ingenious chronographic title, *Taj Baksh-i-Hindustan*, by the letter which killeth, "Holding-the-power-of-crowning-in-India." I translated it, according to the spirit which giveth life, "The King-Maker of India." I add from the book of one of the earliest English travellers in Persia, 300 years ago, the English translation he gives of the Persian titles enumerated by him in the order of their rank:—*Pot-Shaw* = Emperor, *Shaw* = King, *Begoon* = Empress (or Queen), *Mirza* = Prince, *Cawn* = Duke, *Reglerbeg* = Marquis, *Sultan* = Earl, *Beg* = Lord, and *Cavenna* = Lady!

GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

Literary Gossip.

In our number for December 30th, we shall publish a series of articles on the Literature of Europe during 1876. Among them will be Belgium, by MM. E. de Laveleye and Paul Fredericq; Bohemia, by Prof. Durdik, of the University of Prague; Denmark, by Dr. Hansen; France, by M. E. About; Germany, by Prof. Zimmermann, of Vienna; Holland, by M. Loeffelt; Italy, by Prof. A. de Gubernatis; Norway, by Prof. Daas, of Christiania; Portugal, by Prof. Soromenho; Russia, by Mr. E. Schuyler; and Spain, by Señor Riaño.

A RUMOUR is afloat, but we do not vouch for its truth, that the managers of the *Times* have some idea of issuing a weekly edition, containing a digest of the week's news, the chief "leaders" that have appeared in the daily issue, &c. Whether the project will be carried out, of course, we cannot tell.

A LONG and important poem, by Mr. Swinburne, entitled 'The Sailing of the Swallow,' will appear in the March number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, which has passed into the

hands of Messrs. Chatto & Windus. It is in heroic measure, and is intended to form a portion of Mr. Swinburne's 'Tristan and Yseult.'

THE Annual Conference of Head Masters will this year be held at Rugby, on Thursday and Friday, the 21st and 22nd instant. The Agenda Paper contains a larger list of resolutions than ever, and if this were a conference of the representatives of any other profession, we should confidently assert that not half the business could be got through. But schoolmasters have a faculty of getting through a great deal of work in an astonishingly short time, and the experience of former years shows how much may be done in a couple of days by a body of men of distinguished ability, who are in the habit of transacting the maximum of business with the minimum of talk. It may be taken as proved that at no other conference that assembles in the kingdom is there so little nonsense heard, or so much practical good sense uttered in fewer words.

THE first five resolutions deal with the Oxford and Cambridge schools' examination; the examinations for the Indian Civil Service, Woolwich, Cooper's Hill, Sandhurst, &c. The "private business" is occupied with a discussion on the question whether the Conference shall hereafter assemble, as heretofore, at some one of the more important schools, or only at Oxford, Cambridge, or London. The discussions on Friday morning are to consider such matters as Greek and Latin verse composition, the teaching of geography in schools, school punishments, &c. Friday afternoon is given over to what may be called "hobbies," such as the training of schoolmasters, the establishment of girls' schools, the more liberal recognition of modern languages at the Universities, &c.; but, as the "hobbies" are only to be discussed if all the five resolutions set down for the morning meeting have been duly debated, some of the well-intentioned gentlemen whose names appear as advocates for their own pet subjects on Friday afternoon, must feel considerable misgivings as to the possibility of their being allowed to air their eloquence at all this year. If Dr. Jones's motion for the improvement of geometrical teaching, or Mr. Allen's for the formation of local Associations of Head Masters, come on for discussion, these two gentlemen will be, we should think, agreeably surprised.

THE number of matriculations at Edinburgh for the session 1876-7 is the highest registered since the foundation of the University. The changes effected by the Universities Commission in 1858-61 have been followed by a steady increase in the number of students. In the session 1861-2, the matriculated students in the several faculties numbered 1,509; in 1871-2, 1,854; and in the present year there are 2,069 already registered, while the average number of late entries and entries for the Summer Session (judging from past years) will amount to from 200 to 250, thus bringing up the total to about 2,300 for the academic year. Of the 2,069 already matriculated, 1,434 come from Scotland, 370 from England and Wales, 30 from Ireland, 71 from India, 127 from different colonies, and 37 from foreign countries.

THE edition of Cyril Tournier's works so long promised by Mr. Collins, and containing

the poem discovered by the editor, is coming out at last.

By the kindness of Sir Thomas Hardy, we are enabled to print the original from the *Coram Rege Roll*, 16 Ric. II., of the poem given by Mr. Groves in the last number of *Notes and Queries* :—

In the contre herd was we }
Y^e in our soken schrewes shuld be }^t wal for to bake
Among yis frers it is so } Whether yei slepe or
And other ordres many mo } wake
And yet wol Ikkan hel vp other } bothe in wrong
And meyneten him als his brother } and right
And also wil in stond and stoure } with al our myght
Meynteyn owr neghebour
Ik man may come and goo } I say yow sikyry
Among vs both to and froo }
But hethyng wil we suffre non } w^t what man he be
Neither of Hobbe ne of Johan }
For vnkynde we war } any vylane hethyng
Yif we suffred of lease or mar }
But it wer q't double agayn } to hyde our dresyng
And acorde and be fulfayn }
And on yat p'pos yet we s^d } In wha' place it f[al]
Who so dose vs any wrang }
Yet he myght als wele } do again vs all.
Als have I hap and hele }

The ballad belongs to the period when the movement of Wat Tyler spread into Yorkshire, and it seems to be the oldest extant English ballad.

In round numbers, there will be two thousand candidates for admission to the Bar of the North-West Provinces of India this year. There are eight subjects appointed for examination. It has been found, on former occasions, that each candidate generally writes about six pages—the average really being rather more than less. The examiners will thus have to look forward to the task of scrutinizing nearly 100,000 legal papers, in only one portion of India. Then there are hosts of other examinations—school examinations, examinations for appointments, University examinations, and the greater part of these are written.

MR. RATNA VELU CHETTI, the first native Covenanted Civilian of Madras, has just arrived in that city, where large numbers of the Hindoos, especially members of the University, turned out to receive him. It will be remembered that he took his B.A. in Madras when only sixteen, came over to England, and passed (fifth) in the Indian Covenanted Civil Service Examination, then distinguished himself at Balliol, and now returns to India, twenty years old, having first been called to the English Bar.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish early in the spring, in two crown 8vo. volumes, a work, entitled 'Commentaries on the Liberty of the Subject, and the Laws of England relating to the Security of the Person,' by Mr. James Paterson, sometime Commissioner of Fisheries. Mr. Paterson aims at giving a complete exposition of this branch of our law, showing how, in its present development, it protects at every point the personal freedom of man, and how far under that law the body may be interfered with or punished, whether for debt, for crime, or for any cause whatsoever. Mr. Paterson thinks that his new arrangement, taking the "Liberty of the Subject" as the keynote, and profiting by the advance of ideas since Blackstone wrote, admits of freshness of treatment. For the lawyer he has tried to preserve technical accu-

racy of detail, but he has, at the same time, aimed to make his account of the laws under which we live readable.

THE forthcoming number of the *New Quarterly* will contain a complete story by Mr. George Meredith, author of 'Beauchamp's Career.'

AT a Council Meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, held at New Burlington Street, on the 5th inst., Albert Hartshorne, Esq. (son of the late Rev. Ch. H. Hartshorne), author of 'The Recumbent Effigies of Northamptonshire,' and William Brailsford, Esq., were unanimously appointed joint-Secretaries of that Society.

PROF. VAMBÉRY has finished, and is about to publish, his 'Etymological Dictionary of the Turco-Tatar Languages,' forming a *thesaurus* of the Yakut, Korbai-Karagas, Altai Tchuvash, Uigur, Tchagatai, Kazan, Azerbaidjan, Turcoman and Osmanli languages.

IN the Clarendon Press Series will be published, early in the year, the second volume of 'Easy Selections from Xenophon,' for beginners, adapted from the 'Anabasis,' with vocabulary and notes by Messrs. J. Surtees Phillpotts and C. S. Jerram.

THE *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes* gives an account of the edition of Marlowe's 'Edward the Second' of 1594, which we mentioned a fortnight ago. It is in the Library at Cassel. It is a small octavo, in fine condition, and fills ninety-one pages besides the title-page. It resembles the 1598 edition in not being divided into acts and scenes. So far as hitherto collated there is little difference in the text, the variations being mainly in orthography and the stage directions. The title-page is as follows :—

The troublesome
raigne and lamentable death of
Edward the second, King of
England : with the tragical
fall of proud Mortimer.

As it was sundrie times publicquely acted
in the honourable citie of London, by the
right honourable the Earl of Pem-
brooke his servants.

Written by Chri. Marlow Gent.

Below is the printer's name—

Imprinted at London for William Jones,
dwelling neere Holbourne conduit, at the
signe of the Gunne. 1549.

The 1598 edition has the addition, after "proud Mortimer," "And also the life and death of Peirs Gaveston, the great Earl of Cornwall, and mighty favorite of King Edward the Second"; but omits "sundrie times" and "in the honourable citie of London."

It is said that the Dutch are so pleased with Mr. Palgrave's recent work on their Guiana, that the author will shortly be asked to have it translated into Dutch.

DR. FORBES WATSON'S 'Peoples of India' has now reached its eighth volume. Unluckily there are many heartburnings among bibliophiles about this valuable work. The third and fourth volumes have been almost entirely sold out, and there is said to be some difficulty in procuring a complete set.

MR. P. A. DANIEL has undertaken to complete, for the New Shakspeare Society, the Parallel Text edition of the first quarto and folio of 'Henry the Fifth,' which Dr. Brinsley

Nicholson's illness obliged him, some time ago, to throw up. Mr. Daniel has also taken in hand the edition of the thirteen 'Doubtful Plays,' which Dr. B. Nicholson had intended to prepare. In the first of these which he took up, Mr. Daniel's recourse to its first quarto enabled him to restore a speech—though of one line only—which Malone had missed, and later editors had never looked to the original for. Dr. Nicholson has, too, found a curious coincidence between a line in 'Locrine' and one of N. Breton's works, which may imply the latter author's having taken part with Charles Tylney in the stilted play above named.

WE understand that the King of Burmah is having the *Jātakas* sculptured on marble at Mandalay, and that the editor of a native paper is bringing out the Burmese text in weekly numbers by way of *feuilleton*.

A NEW library edition of the 'Peerage and Baronetage of England, Scotland, and Ireland,' to be completed in four volumes, large 8vo., is in preparation by Mr. Joseph Foster, the editor of the recently published 'Visitation of Yorkshire,' and compiler of 'The Lancashire and Yorkshire Pedigrees.' It will contain engravings of armorial bearings, and especial attention is to be given to the development of the pedigrees in a much more complete form than is to be found in any of the existing peerages.

THE catalogue of M. Gonzales's Library, just published in Paris, contains some noteworthy items : Album de la Maison d'Orléans, with portraits, autographs, and views of castles and country seats relating to the princes of the family, 100*l*.; *Chroniques de Saint Denis*, MS., on vellum, 200*l*.; Fénelon, 'Télémaque,' Paris, 1785, 2 vols. 4*to*., 120*l*.; Heures à l'usage de Rome, Paris, S. Vostre, 1498, on vellum, 60*l*.; Heures de Renée de Bourbon, MS., on vellum, 80*l*.; Juvenalis, Persius, Venetiis, Aldus, 1535, 120*l*.; La Fontaine, 'Contes,' Amsterdam, 1762, 72*l*.; Livre de Prières, MS., de Nic Jarry, 300*l*.; Marot, Œuvres, Lyon, 1539, 40*l*.; Molière, Œuvres, first edition, Paris, 1666, 60*l*.; Rabelais, Œuvres, 3 vols. Amst. 1746, 72*l*.; 'Roman de la Rose,' Paris, 1529, 100*l*.; Vie de St. Jean Chrysostome, Paris, 1664, 4*to*., 72*l*. From this it is to be seen how much the price of rare and curious books has increased in France this year.

SCIENCE

ARCTIC EXPLORATION.

DR. A. PETERMANN, the eminent geographer, has addressed a valuable letter on Arctic Exploration to the President of the Royal Geographical Society. He speaks in the very highest terms of the achievements of Captain Sir George Nares and his daring band of explorers, and is of opinion that the route through Smith Sound has now definitively been proved to be impracticable. He says, with reference to its selection :—

"The Smith Sound route had been artificially puffed up, exploration in that direction had attained a 'power of habit,' and the predilection for Smith Sound became contagious, and an incubus on Arctic research. Sent out to attain the Pole by sledges to be drawn by fine plucky seamen along a land of fiction, it required the greatest moral courage to return home sooner than expected, and with results diametrically opposed to

fallacious premises, on which the whole plan of the expedition had been founded."

Dr. Petermann still considers a route to the east of Greenland to offer the best chances of success, and does not hesitate to say that Captain Nares, had he followed in the wake of that great explorer, Sir Edward Parry, might have attained the Pole:

"Sir Edward Parry with his sledge boats in the loose drift ice looked out for the biggest and most compact ice, whereas a steaming expedition would search for the water and lanes."

Ten years ago, Dr. Petermann tells us, many of the leading Arctic authorities, including Captain (now Admiral) Richards, General Sabine, Sir Edward Belcher, Captain (now Admiral) Inglefield and many others, had been in favour of a route to the east of Greenland; but somehow or other they had been persuaded to prefer a route through Smith Sound. As for himself, he still believed in an open Polar Sea or Polynia extending from the Taimyr river to Cape Yakan in the east, a distance of 1,400 nautical miles, and that the Gulf Stream communicated with it. The *Tegethoff*, a small steamer of 220 tons, had certainly been beset by pack-ice, but the frail sailing craft of Norwegian fishermen had again and again navigated this sea; and Lieut. Weyprecht, the leader of the Austrian expedition, differing in this respect from Payer, still considered the Siberian Polar Sea as far as Bering Strait to be "practicable"; and Prof. Nordenskiöld, who had two years in succession navigated the Kara Sea, which was considered impenetrable hitherto, proposed to make an effort, in 1878, to reach Bering Strait.

The eastern shore of Franz Josef Land, owing to drift-ice, would probably prove impracticable, but the western shores offered greater chances of success. The route due north of Spitzbergen likewise deserved a trial, aided by a powerful steamer, but the most favourable route of all appeared to him to be that along East Greenland:

"It is there that the Arctic ice freely drifts away all through the summer, and also all through the winter, as has been shown by the crew of the sailing vessel *Hansa*. Thus the central area of the Polar regions is more or less cleared of its ice, and would, I am fully convinced, on an expedition like that of Capt. Nares, be navigated, the Pole attained, and the whole regions as far as Bering Strait explored. This view is corroborated by the long experience of David Gray, of Peterhead, who knows more about the seas of East Greenland than any other person living."

"As far as Newfoundland and 36° N. lat. there is a permanent ice-drift all down Davis Strait and Baffin Bay, and from Smith Sound, a distance of about 2,600 nautical miles. Within this long line the ice does not necessarily increase towards the north, and hence there is what is well known under the name of 'North Water' of the whalers at the furthest northern end of this 2,600 miles long ice-stream, as well as the mild climate and open water that is known to exist in Port Foulke and its neighbourhood all the year round. In like manner open water may, and probably will, be found under the very Pole, after having navigated the ice-stream of East Greenland in a similar manner, as Baffin Bay is navigated by whalers and exploring expeditions; and the more ice as is drifted down, the more open sea will be left behind in summer and autumn, when frost cannot form new ice. Baffin Bay, on the whole, can receive but comparatively little of the paleocrycitic ice through the narrow channels of Lancaster Sound, Jones Sound, and Smith Sound; the East Greenland current is the only one capable of clearing the central Arctic regions of its ice-masses, and hence it will also best lead navigators to the open Polar sea in its rear."

"It is there that an expedition has the best chance of getting into the central Arctic regions and to the North Pole. It is there that I directed our two German expeditions to; and although the first only consisted of a little Norwegian sailing sloop of 60 tons, and the second of a clumsy steamer of 143 tons and an unfortunate sailing vessel of 242 tons, they were as fairly successful

as could be expected, under the circumstances of an undertaking that was entirely new to us Germans. Koldewey did not try properly to push northward, the little engine was out of order, and he limited himself to the paltry distance of only twenty nautical miles."

"I still think that an efficient expedition like that of Capt. Nares could, by this route, finish the North Pole probably in one season, or in two or three months during the summer or autumn. 80° N. lat., near Spitzbergen, is attainable every year by mere open fishing-boats. I am convinced Capt. Nares, after what he has done up to 82° 27' N. lat. at the paleocrycitic sea, would steam right away to the Pole on the East Greenland route."

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THERE is already a talk of another Arctic Expedition, but should the proposal be carried out, it is not likely that an attempt will be made to push as far north as possible, but the object will rather be to explore thoroughly the places selected for winter quarters.

The Italian expedition, commanded by the Marchese Antinori, has safely reached Lichi, near Angolala, in the kingdom of Shoa, and was hospitably received by the king. The members of the expedition narrowly escaped assassination on the road from Zeila to Harar, and met with serious difficulties in crossing the river Havash. Antinori will wait Captain Martini's arrival, with fresh supplies, before starting for the equatorial lakes.

Dr. Schnitzer (Emin Effendi) returned to Muli in the beginning of September, after having visited Uganda and portions of Usoga and Unyoro. He was hospitably entertained by King Mtesa, at whose capital he met with a colony of Arabs, whose head is Hamed Ben Ibrahim, a native of Riad in Nejd. King Mtesa, he tells us, inclines favourably towards the doctrines of Christianity.

Dr. Junker has obtained leave to explore the equatorial provinces of Egypt in all directions. Transport will be supplied to him by the authorities.

Dr. Karl Sachs, who travels on behalf of the Berlin Academy, has arrived at Caracas, en route for the Llanos of Venezuela. The principal object of his journey consists in an inquiry into the natural history of electric fishes.

We learn from *Dagbladet* that Captain Kjelsen, of Tromsø, has discovered an island to the east of Storö and north-east Land of Spitzbergen, which may probably turn out to be identical with Gillis's Land. He then sailed to lat. 81° 30' N., due north of Cape Leigh Smyth, without sighting ice.

M. Potanin's expedition has been stopped by the Chinese at Tulta, they declining to guarantee his safety, should he insist upon proceeding further.

The forthcoming number of Petermann's *Mittheilungen* will abound in Arctic papers. There will be reports on Prof. Nordenskiöld's expedition to the Yenisei, on the Bremen expedition to Western Siberia, and on Captain Nares's achievements in Smith Sound. Dr. Petermann does full justice to the achievements of our Arctic navigators, but trusts that, the impracticability of this route having been proved, future efforts will be directed to the sea between Greenland and Novaya Zemlya.

From a letter communicated to the *Times*, we learn that Capt. Wiggins has discovered a good harbour in the Gulf of Kara, a large island off the mouth of the river Ob, and another island, abounding with reindeer, on the route to the Yenisei. Much ice was encountered in the Kara Sea, but the temperature of air and water was exceedingly warm. He steamed up an excellent channel to Kurelka, on the Yenisei, and found there plenty of graphite awaiting shipment. On the 5th of December he was about to start for Krasnoyarsk, on the Upper Yenisei. Capt. Wiggins's steamer has been equipped mainly at the expense of M. A. Sibirakof. The island at the mouth of the

Yenisei had already been discovered by Nordenkiöld, on the 16th of August of the present year, and has been named after M. Sibirakof.

The results of the Russian Scientific Mission to Hissar and Kulab, the unknown hill-country north of the Upper Oxus, have been awaited with much interest as supplementing the information derived from our own recent expedition to the adjoining Pamir region. The abstract of the Russian Report, contained in the *Geographical Magazine* for this month, is therefore very acceptable. The region may be said to comprise the western extremity of the Thian Shan mountain system, where it gradually falls away into the plains of Western Turkistan, and thus consists of a number of broad mountain valleys, spreading out in a fan shape, some carrying the streams which flow west towards Bokhara, and others those flowing south-west and south to the Oxus or Amu. Of the latter, the most important are the Shirabad—the name, like so many others among these mountain states, recalling traditions of Ali (*Shir*, the *Lion*)—then, going east, the Surkhan, the Kafir-nahan, and the Surkh-ab or Vaksh. This last enters the Amu in about 68° 10' lat. after a long south-west course from the Alai Mountains through Karategin, where its upper waters are still unknown. Its lower course has long been a matter of dispute among geographers, and it has probably been confounded with the "Little" Surkh-ab, which enters the Amu some eighty miles further east. The climate of these valleys is pleasant, as they are sheltered by mountains in the north, and open towards the plain of the Amu to the south. The elevation also is not great, the towns lying at various heights from 3,000 ft. to 300 ft., the level here of the Amu. Some of the mountain peaks, however, reach the limits of perpetual snow. There is a good deal of pastoral wealth and extensive irrigation, and cotton, flax, and cereals are exported to Bokhara. There are traditions, as elsewhere, throughout these regions, of a far denser population than at present. It consists now mainly of Uzbeks and Tajiks, the former, as usual, the dominant race, occupying usually the upland plains and wide pastoral valleys, while the Tajiks are pushed into the more hilly districts, especially to the eastward, and also predominate in many of the towns. Hissar and Kulab still own allegiance to Bokhara.

THE LATE MRS. GRAY.

LAST year we had to record the death of Dr. Gray, of the British Museum, and we have now to add that of his widow, which took place on the 9th inst., she having reached the ripe age of ninety years. Through this long life she had with unwearied industry been occupied either in aiding her husband in his scientific work, or in independently pursuing some favourite study of her own. As an instance of her indefatigable industry, we may refer to the five volumes of etchings of 'Figures of Molluscous Animals' (from 1857 to 1874), in which the number of specimens represented is something astounding. These etchings were privately published, and can scarcely have obtained the notice they deserve. Of marine algae she was an ardent collector, and she took delight in presenting collections, made and arranged by herself, to schools throughout the country, with the desire to diffuse a taste for a subject in which she took infinite pleasure. Her own collection of algae, which is extensive, is, by her directions, presented to the Museum of the University of Cambridge. Moreover, she arranged and mounted, as a labour of love, the greater part of the Cumming Collection of Shells preserved in the British Museum.

In the days when Dr. and Mrs. Gray were in the prime and vigour of life, their house in the British Museum was known as a place where every scientific man, from whatever country he might come, or whatever his special branch of science might be, was always welcome to a genial hospitality to which she undoubtedly lent a great personal charm. Mrs. Gray was born at Greenwich Hospital, in 1787, where her father, Lieut. Henry Smith, R.N., was then resident. In 1810 she

married Mr. Francis Edward Gray, who, after four years of married life, died, and left her with two daughters, who survive her. In 1826 she married the late Dr. Gray, a second cousin of her former husband.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 7.—Dr. Hooker, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On a New Form of the Sprengel Air-pump,' by Mr. C. H. Gimingham, and 'On the Diurnal Variations of the Wind and Barometric Pressure,' by Mr. F. Chambers.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 12.—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Vice-Patron, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows:—Right Hon. Sir B. Brett, Sir J. Hawkshaw, Hon. H. Tollemache, Major-General H. E. Longden, Lieut. T. A. Fox, Lieut. T. G. Murray, Surgeon-Major A. F. Bradshaw, Rev. J. Hawkins, Rev. D. S. McClean, Rev. C. J. Ridgeway, Rev. M. C. T. Sturman, Dr. D. Macfarlane, Messrs. D. A. Aird, R. A. Brooks, A. C. P. Coote, H. Dore, J. T. Fitz-Adam, A. Gray, J. Grierson, R. Headley, T. Horsley, J. P. Joaquin, A. W. Lafone, B. W. Levy, J. C. Mappin, G. Mathews, J. G. Meiggs, F. Mortimore, F. Normandy, W. N. Rudge, T. Russell, G. Sibley, J. D. Steele, H. Stewart, W. Tufnell, C. C. Williams, J. Williams.—The papers read were, 'On the North Circumpolar Sea,' by Capt. Sir G. S. Nares, 'Arctic Winter Experiences,' by Capt. H. F. Stephenson, and 'Sledge Journey towards the Pole,' by Capt. A. H. Markham.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Dec. 8.—W. Huggins, D.C.L., President, in the chair.—Father Perry read a paper 'On some Experiments made by M. André upon the Effect of Diffraction on the Image of a uniformly bright Object as seen in a Telescope.' He had attempted to determine theoretically the amount of diffraction, and the consequent magnitude of the black drop as seen at any portion of the field of view. On making experiments on a model of the transit of Venus, illuminated by a lime-light, he found that the observed magnitude of the black drop corresponded very exactly with the intensity of the theoretical diffraction. Father Perry also drew attention to M. Janssen's observations of the body of Venus as seen projected on the corona before first contact, by means of a screen of coloured glass, which permitted the rays from the corona to pass, while it blotted out the illumination of the atmosphere. Mr. Ranyard said that it seemed doubtful whether M. Janssen had really seen the body of the planet projected on the corona, or whether he had only seen what other observers had described as the body of the planet marked out by a faint ring of light. It seems certain that the dark body of the moon cannot be seen projected on the corona during a partial eclipse, and during a transit of Venus the illumination of the atmosphere is more intense than during a partial eclipse. It seems also that a blue glass, such as that used by M. Janssen, would not transmit the rays of the corona, which consist mainly of a green line, together with a faint continuous spectrum.—Mr. Huggins showed an enlarged drawing of a photograph of the spectrum of Vega, which he had recently obtained. The spectrum of the star appeared upon the photographic plate as a streak about half an inch long, but the lines were so sharply defined that the spectrum could be examined with a microscope, and in a reference solar spectrum, which had been taken on the same scale alongside the stellar spectrum, many lines can be detected between the two lines. The photographic spectrum shows lines far beyond the violet end of the spectrum, as seen by the eye.—Mr. Christie read a paper 'On the Gradation of Light on the Disc of Venus.' He thought that his observations tended to prove that the light of the sun suffers specular reflection at the surface of the planet.—Mr. Neison read a short paper to show that similar effects of illumination might be expected if the surface of the planet were

rough, like that of the moon.—Mr. Marth drew attention to the importance of making accurate observations, during the present year, of the position of the companion of a Centauri. He showed a diagram giving the position of the companion star as observed during the last fifty years. From this it appeared that the small star is now at or near its periastron, and is consequently moving with great rapidity. He remarked that, owing to the great parallax of a Centauri, the importance of obtaining observations of the position of the companion at the present time, and of fully determining its orbit, cannot be exaggerated.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 6.—Prof. P. M. Duncan, President, in the chair.—The Rev. G. Middleton, Messrs. T. Collinson, P. L. Galloway, S. H. Needham, M. W. Peace, N. F. Roberts, and J. Stirling, were elected Fellows.—The President announced the sad loss the Society had sustained in the death of Mr. D. Forbes, one of its Secretaries, which took place on the morning of December 5.—The paper read was, 'On the Intrusive Character of the Whin Sill of Northumberland,' by Mr. W. Topley.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 7.—F. Ouvry, Esq., President, in the chair.—A letter was read from H.R.H. Prince Leopold, expressing the pleasure he felt at having been elected a Fellow.—Mr. E. Green exhibited a brass to the memory of Joan Harvey (mother of the Harvey who discovered the circulation of the blood), who died in 1605. The brass is in the wall of SS. Mary and Eanswith's Church at Folkestone, and is very quaint in expression, speaking of the deceased as a "godly harmless woman," "a comfortable friendly matron," &c.—Major Cooper Cooper, F.S.A., exhibited a drawing of a Roman iron knife in the Museum at Homburg, in illustration of one figured in the *Proceedings*, Vol. VI. 184.—Mr. J. C. Robinson, F.S.A., exhibited a wooden mould for making a candle. This mould had been bought at Dorchester, and had at one time belonged to some one at Cerne Abbas, who had cut his initials on it, and the royal arms, &c., on the candle itself (which Mr. Robinson had had made) proved it to be of the time of James the First. Mr. Robinson also exhibited a piece of wood from Nuremberg, both sides of which were covered with moulds for *Agnus Dei*. This was probably intended for cakes of some kind, for the *Agnus Dei* moulds, technically so called, were totally different in size and shape.—Mr. E. P. Shirley, F.S.A., exhibited a drawing of a bronze celt found in Warwickshire.—Mr. J. Brent, F.S.A., exhibited a fragment of a twisted gold torc, found near Canterbury, and a gold penannular ring, found in Co. Meath, Ireland. Also, a silver coin of Alexander the Great, of the ordinary type, stated to have been found near Canterbury, and which, if so, had probably been lost out of some private collection.—The Rev. J. Beck exhibited some stone implements from Bornholm.—Mr. E. H. Willett exhibited some drawings of miscellaneous pottery and other antiquities found in Sussex.—Dr. Johnson gave an account of various objects recently found in excavating the foundations of a new post-office in Shrewsbury. Some of the objects themselves were exhibited,—fragments of pottery, pieces of oak, two glass bottles, and other articles. No trace of anything Roman had been found.—Prof. Church exhibited, by permission of Mr. Booth, three silver plaques enamelled with heraldic devices, among which figured the arms of the city of Gloucester.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Dec. 6.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew in the chair.—The Chairman exhibited several objects of interest found recently at Moorfields, and among these were two shepherds' crooks of Saxon date in fine preservation.—Several examples of early (Norman) pottery were exhibited in fine preservation.—Mr. Syer Cuming spoke of the early relics which had from time to time been exhumed at Moorfields, and described several of pre-historical date which had been met with in Long Alley.—Mrs. Bailey

sent for exhibition several curious iron fetters and instruments of torture.—Mr. Isaacs exhibited a Romano-British drinking-cup, of a material not unlike Upchurch ware, found at Southfleet.—Mr. L. Brock described a collection of personal ornaments, mostly of Roman date, found in London, and Mr. Cuming identified some of the beads exhibited as of Egyptian manufacture for Roman use.—Dr. R. N. Philipps exhibited some curious carvings, part probably of an ornamental distaff, and recently found at Guelderland, New Holland. They were identified as being of German workmanship, and were probably brought to England by some of the Flemish settlers in the sixteenth century.—Mr. J. Brent read a paper 'On Ancient Canterbury.' He remarked upon the small amount of work of Roman date now above ground, the Roman level being about eight feet below that of the modern city. He adduced carefully collected evidence in proof of the small extent of the original Roman settlement, and challenged the statements lately made as to the existence of a large lake on the west side of the city, and showed, from recent discoveries, that this never existed. The lecturer exhibited a large collection of Roman ornaments, mostly of bronze, some being enamelled and inlaid, and also many examples of pre-historic flint implements.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 7.—G. Bentham, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. F. Day read Part I. of the 'Geographical Distribution of the Freshwater Fishes of India.' This contribution aims towards solving the vexed question of whether the fauna of Hindostan is mostly African or Malayan. The author first separates the true freshwater species from those which enter rivers from the sea for breeding or predacious purposes. Out of nine families of spiny-rayed fish (Acanthopterygians), only two are likewise found in the African region; but one of these is in Madagascar, which is doubtfully African; the other is also found in the Malay Archipelago, which possesses representatives of eight out of nine families. Each of the forty-five known species is then followed out, and the author considers that the Indian and Malayan fauna (of the group in question) are essentially identical, whereas the species are scarcely represented in Africa. The freshwater fishes of Ceylon, the Andamans, and Nicobars, he believes, are also strictly Indian, whilst, as these fishes cannot be spread except by line of freshwater communication, it appears necessary and most probable that these islands were at one period connected to the continent of India. Moreover, certain forms exist in Malabar which are absent from the rest of India, but re-appear in the regions of Chittagong or Siam.—Mr. J. S. Baker gave the substance of an exhaustive memoir, 'On a general Systematic Arrangement of the Iridaceæ' (the Iris family). Nearly all the Iridaceæ inhabit temperate regions, and may be grown successfully in the open air in this country. Some are among our most familiar garden genera; for instance, *Crocus*, *Iris*, and *Gladiolus*. About 700 species and 65 genera are now recognized. In his classification the structure of the perianth guides him to three primary divisions—respectively the (1) *Ixiæ*, (2) *Irideæ*, and (3) *Gladiolæ*,—the familiar garden genera above given serving as typical examples. These three divisions are again subdivided into—(a) those having *bulbs with free stamens*; (b) those having *bulbs with monadelphous stamens*; (c) those wanting *bulbs, but with free stamens*; and (d) those devoid of *bulbs with monadelphous stamens*. As regards distribution, 312 genera are found at the Cape, in Europe and North Africa 94, temperate Asia 89, tropical America 82, tropical Africa 66, South America 34, Australia 31, temperate North America 25, and Polynesia 1.—The Rev. W. A. Leighton communicated a description of 11 new British Lichens; 7 of these belonging to the genus *Lecidea*, 1 to *Odontotrema*, and 3 to *Verrucaria*.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Dec. 5.—Dr. E. Hamilton, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the

additions made to the Menagerie during November, and called particular attention to four Brazilian Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax Brasilianus*), purchased, and a Hooded Crane (*Grus monachus*), received on deposit.—Letters and communications were read: from Count T. Salvadori, announcing that a new species of Paradise-bird, of the genus *Drepanornis*, had been discovered near the most inland point of Geelvink Bay, New Guinea,—from Mr. A. Anderson, containing some corrections of and additions to previous papers 'On the Raptorial Birds of North-Western India,'—by Mr. F. Day, 'On the Fishes collected by the Yarkand Mission, in 1873,' to which the late Dr. Stoliczka was attached as naturalist: the paper gave an outline sketch of the Fresh-water Fishes of Hindustan, Afghanistan, Western Turkestan, Yarkand, Tibet, and Cashmere; the author showed that the principal fishes of Yarkand belong to a local group of Carps, termed "Hill Barbels, or Schizothoracines," by McClelland; that this group is almost restricted to cold and elevated regions, spreading to the most eastern portion of Western Turkestan, Afghanistan, and along the slopes of the Himalayas to China; and that these forms are entirely distinct from the Carps of the plains to the south of the Himalayas,—from Mr. M. Jacoby, 'On new Genera and Species of Phytophagous Coleoptera,'—from Dr. A. Günther, 'On a new Species of Lizard from Asia Minor, which he proposed to name *Zootoca Danfordi*, after Mr. C. G. Danford, its discoverer,'—from Mr. W. Ferguson, of Colombo, 'On a new Species of Snake, of the Genus *Aspidura*, from Ceylon,' for which the name of *A. Guentheri* was proposed.

CHEMICAL.—Dec. 7.—Dr. J. H. Gladstone, V.P., in the chair.—Prof. A. H. Church read a paper, 'On Colein,' the red colouring-matter existing in the leaves and stems of the *Coleus verscheffeltii*. It was prepared from the stems, and when pure is an amorphous substance of a brilliant crimson colour, unalterable by exposure to light or by the action of dilute acids; alkalis, however, alter it rapidly. Its alcoholic solution when freshly prepared is of a bright red colour, but, in common with that of some other red colouring-matters, it rapidly fades until it becomes almost colourless. This is due to a combination of the colein with the alcohol, the red colour being immediately restored on the addition of a little acid.—Dr. Otto Witt made a verbal communication, 'On Phenylene-diamine,' obtained from dinitro-benzene by the action of reducing agents.—The Secretary read a paper, by Mr. J. B. Hanns, 'On Calcium Sulphate,' describing some double salts, and some of the hydrates.—The last paper was 'Additional Notes on Potassium Tri-iodide,' by Mr. G. S. Johnson, giving the specific gravity and atomic volume of the substance.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Dec. 6.—H. C. Sorby, Esq., President, in the chair.—A number of donations were announced and acknowledged, and Mr. W. G. Lettsom was elected a Fellow.—The President exhibited a fac-simile of Jansen's microscope, made, by permission of the Dutch Government, from the original, exhibited at the South Kensington Loan Collection.—A paper, by the Rev. W. H. Dallinger, was read by the Secretary, 'On *Navicula Crassinervis*, *Frustulia Sazonica*, and *Navicula Rhomboides*,' in which, after referring to some length to the recent discussion upon the subject of their identity or difference, he expressed his belief that they were all specimens of *Rhomboides*, differing only as to size; and in support of this opinion a number of beautifully executed drawings were exhibited, showing the microscopical appearance of the diatoms in question under a magnifying power of 800 diameters. A discussion followed, in which the President, Mr. Slack, Dr. Wallich, and Mr. Ingpen took part, in the course of which it was pointed out that, although the striae on all the specimens were resolvable in the same way, and differed merely as to size, yet there were, even in the drawings submitted, differences sufficient to be considered specific.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dec. 13.—General F. C. Cotton in the chair.—Twelve new Members were proposed for election.—The paper read was, 'On a New Process for Printing a Number of Colours at One Time,' by Mr. E. Meyerstein. The process consists in printing from a block of the colour itself, constructed by adding small quantities of the required colours in succession, piling down the colour to the outline required as each successive amount is added. The name given to the process by the inventor is "Stenochromy." A number of copies, reproductions both of oil and water-colour paintings, were exhibited.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—Dec. 5.—Dr. S. Birch, President, in the chair.—The new list of Officers and Council for the Session of 1876-7 was submitted for nomination by the Secretary.—The following papers were read: 'On some Recent Discoveries at Aboosimbel,' by Miss A. B. Edwards, 'On the Babylonian Cylinders discovered by General di Cesnola in the Treasury of Kurium,' by the Rev. A. H. Sayce, M.A., 'Notes on Assyrian History,' by W. St. Chad Boscawen: the author intends to continue his researches in the history of Assyria in a series of papers, of which this paper is the first,—and 'On an Aramean Seal,' by Lieut.-Col. W. F. Prideaux.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Dec. 11.—Col. L. Fox, President, in the chair.—The following new Members were announced: Rev. A. H. Sayce, Messrs. G. Tippetts and T. F. Peacock. The following paper, by Mr. H. H. Howarth, was read: 'On the Ethnology of the Germans: Part I. The Saxons of Lower Saxony.' The author contended that the Saxons north of the Elbe were immigrants, and of the same race as those south of that river, and that the Saxons were not indigenous to Hanover or Westphalia, but colonists or invaders. This he proved by the topography of those districts and by the names of men, things, &c. He pointed out also the strong differences between the Old Saxons and the Saxons who invaded England. He referred to Spruner's historical atlas for the definition of the ancient limits of the Saxon peoples.—A paper on the Javanese, by M. Kiehl, was also read.

PSYCHOLOGICAL.—Dec. 2.—Mr. Serjeant Cox, President, in the chair.—Mr. Crome was elected an honorary member.—The President reported a remarkable case of supersensuous perception.—A paper, by Mr. Valtner, 'On the Phenomena of Hypnotism,' was read by the Secretary. A discussion followed, and was adjourned.

NEW SHAKSPEARE.—Dec. 8.—F. J. Furnivall, Director, in the chair.—The following new Members were announced: Messrs. J. T. La Brooy, M. Creighton, S. Austin, J. Barnett, W. J. Marshall, S. D. Law, T. W. Pickering, Madame Van de Weyer, Miss C. Drew, Queen's College, Cork, Halle University, Royal Institution.—Mr. H. B. Wheatley read a paper 'On Ben Jonson's "Every Man in his Humour,"' contending that the first quarto was not surreptitious, but was followed in plot and incident by the folio, though largely altered in word, scene, and name. He thought the folio excisions in the last act judicious.—Mr. E. G. Doggett and Mr. Furnivall contributed emendations and explanations of lines 343 and 301 in No. XIX. of 'The Passionate Pilgrim.'—Miss E. Marx read her translation of the second part of Prof. Delius's paper 'On Shakspeare's Use of Narrative in his Plays.' This part took in the historical and Roman plays.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.
Mon. London Institution, 8.—'Light and the Eye,' Prof. J. Dewar.
Institute of British Architects, 8.
Society of Arts, 8.—'History of the Art of Coach Building,' Lecture V., Mr. G. A. Thrupp (Cantor Lecture).
Tues. Statistical, 7.—'Statistical Results of the Treaties of Commerce, and their Relation to the Balance of Trade,' Prof. Leone Levi; 'Growing Preponderance of Imports over Exports in the Trade of this Country,' Mr. S. Bourne.
Wed. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Annual General Meeting.'
Zoo. Meteorological, 7.—'Observations with the Psychrometer,' Dr. R. Rubenson; 'Contributions to a Pyrometry: the Wet-Bulb Thermometer,' Mr. W. Marriott; 'Viscosity,' Hon. Ralph Abercromby; 'Description of a Meteorological Model,' Mr. F. Maury.
Literature, 8.—'Curiosities of the English Language, Ancient, Medieval, and Modern,' Rev. A. J. D. O'Sney.

Geological, 8.—'Phaenodonta Strakeni, a Fossil Holothurid Spongia from the Cambridge Coprolite Bed,' Mr. W. J. Sollas; 'New Species of Eurypterus from the Carboniferous of Scotland,' Mr. R. Etheridge, jun.; 'Silurian Gulls near Corwen, North Wales,' Prof. E. M. Kenny Hughes; 'Mineral Veins,' Mr. W. Morgan.
Society of Arts, 8.—'Philadelphia Exhibition,' Prof. Archer.
Tues. London Institution, 7.—'Results of the Arctic Expedition,' Mr. C. R. Markham.
Numismatic, 7.—'Statens of Cystis and Lampasus, frequently mentioned together in the Akte Inscriptions, and on the Period to which they Belong,' Mr. E. Head.
Linnean, 8.—'Morphological Notes on certain Species of Thunbergia,' Mr. M. M. Hartog; 'Ear Bones of Mammalia,' Mr. A. H. G. Dorn; 'Commercial Cane Termed Whang,' Mr. J. B. Jackson; 'Butterflies of Malacca,' Mr. A. G. Butler.
Royal, 8.
Psychological, 8.—'Reports of Psychological Facts and Phenomena; Phenomena of Sleep and Dream,' by the President; Adjourned Discussion on Hypnotism.
Far. Quack Microscopical, 8.

Science Gossip.

DR. PETERMANN was present at the meeting of the Geographical Society on Tuesday night, having come from Gotha on purpose.

THE present (so soon to be the past) year has not furnished astronomers with a single comet. But, in compensation, we have lately had a case of an outburst of luminosity of a star, similar to that of the well-known T Coronæ, which occurred somewhat more than ten years ago, in May, 1866. It would seem that this time there is no doubt about the discoverer of the remarkable phenomenon in question, of the extraordinary increase, at any rate, of brilliancy of the star, which Dr. Julius Schmidt, the indefatigable director of the Observatory at Athens, found, on November 24 last, at 5h. 41m. in the evening, to be of the third magnitude. It was near ρ Cygni, and he felt sure it was not visible at all four days previously: the nights between were cloudy at Athens. Nor was there any such star recorded in the Bonn *Durchmusterung* of Argelander. Dr. Schmidt noted that it was very yellow, and at midnight was brighter than η Pegasi. When news was received at the Paris Observatory of the discovery, MM. Cornu and Cazin examined the star with the spectroscope, as soon as the state of the sky permitted, which was not till the night of December 2nd. The star appeared then to be of the fifth magnitude, and of a greenish colour. The spectrum consisted chiefly of brilliant lines, indicating the light to proceed from incandescent gas or vapour.

THE last-discovered (on September 28) small planet, No. 169, has received the name of Zelia.

NEXT summer, D'Arrest's periodical comet will return to perihelion. Even amongst the comets of short period it is a very faint object.

A WORK on the 'Wild Flowers and Plants of Great Britain,' by Mr. F. E. Hulme, Art Master in Marlborough College, with coloured plates from original sketches, will shortly be published in monthly parts by Messrs. Cassell, Petter & Galpin.

MR. FORBES, of whom mention will be found in our account of the meeting of the Geological Society, was distinguished as a philologist as well as a geologist. He spent a considerable time on the highlands of Bolivia and Peru, and his memoir on that region, and particularly on the Aymara Indians, with a grammar and vocabulary, were valuable contributions. The grammar is an admirable monograph. Forbes was devoted to the Norwegian language, as became a member of a Manx family, and he took an interest in the Manx language. Latterly, among other arduous pursuits, he had made many visits to Spain as the Consulting Engineer of the Rio Tinto Company, and his health had much suffered. The loss of his wife had also greatly distressed him, and an attack of amaurosis had suspended his labours and studies for some months. He was a leading member of the Council of the Anthropological Institute, to which his Aymara studies had recommended him. Mr. Forbes communicated nineteen papers to different scientific societies and journals, the most important of his geological papers being, 'On the Relations of the Silurian and Metamorphic Rocks of the South of Norway,' 'On the Causes producing Foliation of Rocks,' 'On some Observed Cases of Foliated Structure in Norway and Scotland,' and 'On the Geology of Bolivia and Southern Peru.'

THE following is the programme of the West London Scientific Association and Field Club for next month: Tuesday, January 9, 1877, 'Spontaneous Generation,' by Dr. Edward B. Aveling; Tuesday, January 23, 'The Origin of Variations: How Living Beings Change,' by Prof. Boulger.

THE students of the Royal School of Mines have started a *Royal School of Mines Magazine*, the first number of which has just been issued. We would, in the most friendly manner, suggest that for the future a little more careful thought should be given to the preparation of the articles.

THE Miners' Association of Cornwall and Devon are about to have a medal struck, to be awarded as an honorary distinction to those young miners who have actually worked twelve months underground, who may in future distinguish themselves in those branches of science which are taught in the classes of the Association.

A MUSEUM of woods and natural products, with many other vegetable specimens, some extremely valuable, in connexion with the forest loss of Burma, is to be shortly established in Rangoon, in connexion with its "Forest Library," which already exists.

THE Report of the Permanent Committee of the first International Congress at Vienna, meeting at London from the 18th to the 21st of April, has just been published.

AN International Horticultural Exhibition is to take place at Amsterdam in May, 1877.

THE Forty-third Annual Report of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society (that for 1875) has been received. It contains several papers of much scientific and practical interest.

FINE ARTS

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE ELEVENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN, from Ten until Six. Gallery, 53, Pall Mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN.—5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, 1s. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES IN OIL, Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—THE TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. R. F. McNAIR, Secretary.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS, by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools, is NOW OPEN, at Thomas M'Lea's Gallery, 7, Haymarket, next the Theatre.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s. DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS, 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM' and 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM' (the latter not completed), each 31 by 21 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Christian Martyr,' 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'House of Calaphas,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

DESCHAMPS' GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street.—THE EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS, contributed by BRITISH ARTISTS, IS NOW OPEN, from 9.30 a.m. till 6 o'clock.—Admission 1s.

GIFT-BOOKS.

A *Brief History of the Painters of all Schools*. By Louis Viardot and other Writers. Illustrated. (Sampson Low & Co.)—Mr. Joseph Candall has adapted the text of M. Viardot, as published in 'Les Merveilles de la Peinture,' to a more comprehensive and larger plan of illustrating the general history of the great painters, adding materials from other well-known and popular sources. Numerous and tolerably good engravings supply examples desirable for the general reader; a systematic plan of treatment, and a proportion of personal anecdotes increase the value of a book which may be serviceable to those who care for a treatise of general and comprehensive character, and do not possess other works of a similar kind. The notices of many of the greatest painters are necessarily brief, and it would have been well, had space permitted, to enlarge not a few of them. Mr. Candall acknowledges his obligations to numerous writers for data and criticisms; he has not exhibited over much judgment in choosing his authorities, some of whom are questionable enough; but, on the whole, it would be hard to make a better volume

than this one, under the circumstances, which are candidly put forth. The book will assuredly be acceptable by many who need the counsel of an intelligent compiler.

The Abbey Church of St. Alban's. By J. W. Comyns Carr. Illustrated. (Seeley & Co.)—A bright, comprehensive, and, although popular, well-studied history of the famous abbey and its noteworthy men, with beautiful etchings and many woodcuts, by Mr. E. George, and Mr. R. Kent Thomas, is likely to be welcome at this time, when attention has been drawn to the building by its very thorough "restoration," and the proposed founding of a new bishopric to bear the name of the abbey, and utilize its ancient fame for modern service. On the whole, the book supplies by far the best account of the subject yet published in one volume that is not strictly architectural in its purpose. Mr. Carr, however, is by no means a careless guide to the architecture, and he has compiled, from good ancient and modern sources, a large mass of information, historical and critical, on the church and its surroundings, so that no visitor should omit to read the volume before setting out, and he will do well to take it with him, and read the author before the remains themselves. Mr. Carr adds descriptions of the remains of paintings, and other accompaniments and enrichments of the building and its surroundings. This book affords all the necessary elucidations of the personal history of the abbots, historians, artists, and others connected with the place.

Little Maybud's Picture Book and *Little Blossom's Picture Book* (Routledge & Sons) contain, with letter-press suited to interest children of ten years of age or thereabouts, more than one hundred woodcuts in each volume. The designs are generally good, drawn with spirit, and varied in style, subject, and character. Both volumes are good examples of their class, and likely to be very acceptable to the young world about us.

WINTER EXHIBITION OF THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THIS Exhibition is not quite up to the standard of last year, but, on the whole, it will repay a visit. The artists whose works claim notice are nearly the same as in previous years: there are few or no changes. Mr. Hine contributes some charming specimens of his pure and fresco-like landscape painting, one or two of which, however, are less solid and, apparently, less genuine than the others, and in these it is impossible not to observe mannerisms which are ominous. There are, nevertheless, abundant proofs of power in dealing with style. That specimen to which we come first is eminent in this respect, as well as in pathos, simplicity, gravity, and grandeur: the grandeur being derived from familiar elements, proves, if anything can prove it, the vigour of the painter. This work is *Cuckmere Haven* (No. 13), showing the ends of parallel ranges of downs, huge, jutting promontories of brilliant chalk, facing the sea, blank, nearly vertical and like so many buttresses, whiter than snow. The flanks of the downs are deep grey-green, dotted with innumerable sheep, and the ridges lie one beyond the other, like waves; evening light glows on the ruddy beach, the grey-blue sea; the sky is suffused by opalescent lustre, so that the picture, in its breadth, severity, and pure luminosity, is monumental. *Moonlight, Newhaven Valley*, (300) is a study of a very different effect, but hardly less impressive. *At Eastbourne* (318) gives a day of sunny mist, and is rich in grand elements.—Take next Miss Gow's *Pleu Dieu* (30), as displaying a new subject; a long road, between trees and flecked with sunlight and shadows, is dotted with groups of children, marching with banners and flowers. The prettiness of the idea, and a certain attractive sparkle in the light, and local colours, go far to redeem the flimsy, painty, and pretentious *chic* of the handling throughout.—A brilliant Alpine landscape, *Winter in Switzerland* (28), by Mr. W. L. Thomas, represents a bridge

over a cascade, with a vista of barren rocks, verdurous hill-sides and snow-topped mountains; the effect being bright sunlight, warm and clear, the shadows carefully dealt with, and the rocks painted with more "dexterity" than solidity; the whole is sparkling and agreeable.—*On the Norfolk Coast* (61), by Mr. Wimperia, depicts, with much crispness, brightness, and force, a beach, a fresh gale, a rainy sky, and low cliffs.—The "cleverness" of Mr. A. Gow's drawing, *A Jacobite Rendezvous* (67), is undeniable; a party of horsemen and their servants, distinguished by a certain hard-featured stupidity, which is humorous enough, have met in a hollow in a pine wood, to hear the reading of a proclamation from one of the exiled Stuarts. The picture, apart from the vivacity of the design, the spirited treatment of the horses, a certain degree of "smartness," and some other showy qualities, is marked by at least no small measure of ability.—*A Fishing Village* (81), by Mr. Aumonier, shows a place like Rye, seated on a knoll at the entrance of what was once an estuary and is now a salt marsh. The foreground is bright and strong, a portentous band of dense grey clouds extends from the one side to the other, casting a deep shadow on the landscape, and, beneath and beyond it, we see the brilliant white and rosy grey of the cloud bases extending to the horizon. The largeness of style, the expansiveness of the picture in respect to air and light and shadow, and the clearness of some, the delicacy of other, parts, are attractive, not less than meritorious, features of a landscape which can boast of what are, in this Exhibition at least, rare and valuable qualities, spontaneity, unity, wholeness, and simplicity.—Mr. Orrock's *Barden Towers* (114)—we remember Turner's drawing of the subject—is much less rough and spotty than previous contributions of the painter have been. It is broad, simple in conception, and finely comprehensive in treatment.—Mr. J. D. Linton's *The Huguenot* (214) is one of the most attractive and successful examples we have had from him, and it shows singular skill in picture-making. Still, its melodramatic characteristics are obvious, if much less vulgar than the designs of Sir J. Gilbert. The scene is the interior of a room. A tall, gaunt, grim, wolf-like cardinal supplies the red to the chromatic scheme, and, of course, the terror to the drama. A captive, kneeling on the floor before his Eminence, bound, writhing in pain, and yet firm, supplies the blue and the white, as well as the requisite sadness, and is intended to excite pity. A blindly obedient soldier, rope in hand, and steadfast of face and limb, gives an idea of latent force and mystery, and furnishes dark red and citron hues. A secretary placed at a table stands for black, and, in sentiment, anything that we like which is deplorable. In chromatics, the picture is complete, and its elements are made broad and fused together, by the low, strong, half tints of grey, brown, olive, green, the powerful shadows, the subdued light on the floor and walls. It is a most telling example, and we must not let our sense of its numerous conventionalities and theatrical design overpower our respect for the talent of the painter. See *A Study*, &c. (60).

Mr. Mogford is the John Varley of this day, without the monumental grace of sentiment,—in fact, without any sentiment worth speaking of,—and without grey and silvery hues, which are so precious a characteristic of the deceased painter's best drawings. Mr. Mogford contributes a considerable number of works, deriving their subjects from Cromer and the angle of the coast near that town. One of the best of these is *A Genial Day, West Cliffs, Cromer* (40). It is attractive, in spite of its conventionalities, and there are so many of them, that it is like a cleverly painted stage scene. It is grey, and bright, and broad, most desirable qualities, sure to produce an impression, and if devoid of sentiment, it is firm and picturesque in treatment. *Fifful Weather, near Cromer*, (59) is a vigorous but rougher example, produced under conditions suggested in our remarks on the last-named painting. *East Sands, Cromer*, (72) may be classed with

'A Genial Day.'—Mr. J. D. Whympers's *Marsh and Moor* (52) is first rate as a representation of a vast flat, extending as far as the eye can see on our right, to a hillock on our left; over all a rain cloud is discharging itself. There are many commendable qualities displayed here. Among them are breadth and a comprehensive and effective style; but both of these features of the picture are based on conventions of the landscape-painter's art, and the view taken of these conventions is conventional. Now, it has always seemed to us that in avoiding this defective view of the matter was one of the triumphs of the artist who could not escape from conventions altogether, which very few find themselves strong enough to do.—In Mr. H. Carter's *Sunday Morning* (63) we recognize, not without being bewildered by the closeness of the imitation, the form of art affected by M. Israëls. The picture represents an old woman reading.—A capital subject was offered to Mr. C. E. Holloway by *The Old Town of Rye* (143), and he has made of it a strong and picture-like picture, which would have delighted Copley Fielding, not the less because it is somewhat scene-like in conception, and decidedly scenic in treatment. It is full of rosy light, and pleasant enough to see here, where the proportion of works showing anything like original views of art is always small, and where the commonplaces of commonplaces never fail to predominate.

Miss E. Thompson's "clever" sketch of soldiers, called *The "Scots Greys" Advancing* (144), will delight the public. Artists will admire its "cleverness," and be puzzled by the easy rate at which the lady satisfies herself.—Mr. Herkomer is probably reserving himself for a larger field than that offered by the Institute. He sends here a capital picture of a church and churchyard (215), showing extraordinary facility in dealing with the superficial appearances of things, and so much ability to recognize nature that one wonders how he could be content with the shallow success he has aimed at; for, attractive as it is, there is not a solidly painted inch in the work. The linear perspective is very questionable indeed.—Mr. S. Lucas sends a capital sketch of a green, stiff-kirted coat, with a man in it, the latter being, apparently, in the act of writing. It is called "*A Letter to Phyllis*" (250).

SOUTH INDIAN EXCAVATIONS.

SOME interesting antiquarian discoveries have recently been made in the great plains in the southern part of the Madras Presidency. Tumuli, near the city of Marco Polo—Kayal—on the Coromandel coast, have been opened under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Caldwell, and relics of the greatest antiquity have been brought to light. The exact nature and value of some of these (many of which are human remains) had not been ascertained; but early in January we hope to be in possession of full details from an eye-witness. Great earthen vases, black and glossy with age, of exquisite pottery, some even said to be more than four feet in diameter at their greatest parts, have been exhumed on the very site of Kayal, which, for all we know, may be the Ophir of the ancients. We referred to these excavations by Dr. Caldwell, at Kayal, some months ago, when they had just begun. Since that time, we have heard, curious stone implements, ornaments, and even rare and wholly unique coins and relics have turned up in the neighbourhood of the great South Indian Tamraparni river. Gangs of coolies have been, at Dr. Caldwell's cost, excavating, especially in the beds of dried-up tanks and water-courses. The city of Kayal appears to have been one of enormous size, many miles in diameter. There is no doubt but that the city, a great port, was once girdled on the landward side by a green rice and plaitain and palm-growing plain of much fertility. Now all is a dreary waste of shifting dunes of sand, that barely cover the ruins of the palaces and temples of a vast Oriental capital.

SALE.

SOME pictures belonging to Mr. H. Simson, of Glasgow, were sold in that city on Saturday last, for guineas, as under:—J. M. Donald, Ardmore Point, 180. E. Nicol, "Beggar my Neighbour," 141. P. Nasmyth, On the Water of Leith, 105. Backhuizen, Early Morning on the Haas, 115. J. M'Whirter, Harvest in Arran, 120; Florence, 105. J. Pettie, Distressed Cavaliers turned Highwaymen, 200. P. Seignac, Blindman's Buff, 135. H. Kauffmann, Dragons in a Snowstorm, 105. S. Bough, Maryport, 230; Newhaven Pier, 311. W. Bouguereau, Juanita, 130. L. Alma Tadema, A Mediaeval Interior, 390; Tarquinius Superbus before Gabii, 850. W. Simson, Fishing Boats off Briel, 110. T. Portaels, Bohemian Gipsy, 170. G. P. Chalmers, The Falls of Tummel, 110. J. Maria, Dutch Canal Scene, 141. P. Graham, Passing Showers, 200. A. Stevens, Disheartened, 150. W. Q. Orchardson, "How Delicious," &c., 330.

Fine-Art Gossip.

WE regret to record the death, on the 1st instant, of Mr. G. Beavington Atkinson, the Art critic (whose serious illness we mentioned before). Mr. Atkinson was a member of a family seated at Bristol, and belonging to the Society of Friends. In early life he pursued artistic studies, and acquired the practical knowledge desirable for the career in which he became known to the public. He was the author of 'An Art Tour in the Northern Capitals of Europe,' and of numerous essays and criticisms published in *Blackwood's Magazine*, the *Contemporary Review*, *Fraser's Magazine*, the *Portfolio*, the *Art-Journal*, the *Saturday Review*, and other journals and reviews, all distinguished by a certain moderation of expression, and a leaning towards the scholastic modes of modern design, as that of Munich, and very considerable learning, and care. He had, of late, given a good deal of time to the affairs of the Burlington Fine Arts Club, of which he and Mr. Wornum were the honorary secretaries.

WE have much pleasure in printing the following note:—"The statement in your journal, of the 9th inst., that I had been dangerously ill, but was now in a fair way of recovery, having caused numerous inquiries by my kind friends, I beg you will allow me to explain that it was a month back when I was laid up with a very severe cold, and attended by my friend Dr. B. Ward Richardson; but I am thankful to say that I soon recovered from this attack, and for the last two or three weeks have been in my usual state of good health and strength, and have been out daily; and if you will kindly insert this letter in the *Athenæum* you will much oblige your obedient servant,
GEORGE CRUIKSHANK."

A GERMAN Correspondent writes:—"From Olympia is announced the discovery of considerable fragments of Metopes. Upon the east side the figure of Athene, who is depicted in a manner very similar to the Hesperid in the Atlas Metope. On the west a male figure, which is said also to have formed part of a Metope."

M. CÉSAR DALY, long known to students of current architecture in France, and highly esteemed on account of the *Revue Générale de l'Architecture*, &c., has lately begun to issue *La Semaine des Constructeurs*, of which about twenty numbers are before us, and contain current news about civil and military works, engineering, buildings, novel inventions, statistics, legal intelligence, and such matters as may be useful to students and practical men. The new publication nearly resembles the *Builder*, and the high character of the editor may be said to make the resemblance closer.

MESSRS. LOW & Co. will shortly publish a new work by "E. V. B.," entitled 'A New Child's Play, Sixteen Drawings.' It is dedicated to "the children who, twenty-five years ago, were amused with the original work."

MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—FRIDAY NEXT, December 23, at 7.30.—Forty-fifth Annual Christmas performance of Handel's 'MESSIAH.' Principal Vocalists: Madame Nourver, Miss Enriques, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. George Fox.—Tickets, 2s., 5s.; Reserved Area, Numbered in Rows, 7s.; Stalls, 10s. 6d.—8, Exeter Hall.

'ALCESTIS.'

WHETHER Lord Macaulay, following the example of Schlegel, was justified or not in ascribing to Euripides the declension of Greek tragedy, it was quite evident, from the physiognomy of the audience—to borrow the French term—at the Crystal Palace, last Tuesday afternoon, when listening to an English adaptation of 'Alcestis,' that the poet exercised a most powerful influence over the sympathies of the general public. The breathless attention with which the play was listened to could not be attributed to the dramatic powers of the artists who were in the cast, for, with one exception, they showed no creative power; and no higher praise can be awarded to the acting than that it was careful and conscientious, free from exaggeration, and the lines were spoken with discretion and feeling, if not with the power and passion exacted by the affecting story which Euripides has treated with such pathos and vigour. Mr. Henry Gadsby has performed his task of composition, having as text Dr. Potter's translation adapted by Mr. Frank Murray, with no ordinary skill. He has been quite right in confining the score to choral and orchestral illustration, and avoiding solos and concerted pieces. This judicious course is in accordance with the exigencies of the Greek drama as regards the notation. The composer has avoided any attempt at imitations of mythical Greek music and instrumentation. He has adopted tonal instead of dominant harmony, resorting at times, more frequently, perhaps, than is desirable, to unison in the vocal parts, which thus become monotonous. He has, however, not ignored the modern resources of instruments (not even of trombones), and his accompaniments to the speaking portions of the drama are in general suggestive and appropriate, and very often admirable. The funeral march is a gem, the overture is stately and classical in form. Out of the ten numbers, or, to make use of the Wagnerian term, the scenes, there are two choruses, in contrast with the didactic and argumentative ones, of remarkable ability—the genial No. 6 in three-four time, when Admetus admits his friend Hercules to the house, and the jubilant No. 10, when the happy finale is reached. The whole music is free from commonplace, the tone is elevated and dignified, and indicates a due appreciation of the poet's intentions. The band, under Mr. Manns, did justice to the composer's setting, and the tenors and basses are entitled to eulogium for their accuracy and just intonation. The histrionic honours fell to Mr. W. Rignold, who played the character of Hercules with some tact; blunt and rough in the opening portion, the actor yet brought out clearly the firm friendship of the hero when he learns the true cause of the sorrow of Admetus, judiciously played, but not forcibly, by Mr. A. Matthieson. *Alcestis*, in the hands of a Rachel or a Ristori, would be a great part. It was prettily, but feebly, realized by Miss E. Cross. Mr. E. Leathes declaimed the lines of *Phères*, the father of Admetus, sensibly. On the whole, overacting could not be charged against any of the artists, who, perhaps from nervousness, were undertoned. Still the performance was, on the whole, highly interesting; and the unanimous call for Mr. Gadsby was a just compliment to a young musician of whom, after his setting of 'Alcestis,' more will be heard.

DR. LISZT'S 'MAZEPPA.'

WHETHER M. Victor Hugo was tempted to write his splendid poem, 'Mazeppa,' by the account given of the Hetman by Voltaire, or whether the work of the French poet was suggested solely by Byron's exciting tale, is a matter of dispute;

but the writer of the analysis of Dr. Liszt's setting of the subject, A. M., certainly shows that M. Hugo, in portions of his poem, must have been moved by Byron's descriptive power. At the same time, M. Hugo's version is too striking and too stormy not to be entitled to the honours of originality. The coalition between the French poet and the German musician has produced a symphonic poem, most suggestive and graphic—an unusually grand piece of descriptive orchestral writing, replete with vivid imagery and artistic merits of the highest order. Although this noble programme-music was presented as the final number of last Saturday's Crystal Palace Concert, it riveted the attention, roused the sympathies, and excited the admiration of an appreciative audience. In no other of the symphonic poems in which he has sought to depict the prominent points of the poetry of famous authors, such as Schiller, Lamartine, &c., has Liszt soared to such elevation as he has reached in the sixth of his "Symphonische Dichtungen." There are passages in the "Mazeppa" score to which the name of the most famous of musicians might be subscribed. Dr. Liszt has set the story in three sections: the first movement, *allegro agitato*, is assumed to picture the flight of the wild horse of the Ukraine; in the second one, *andante*, is the affecting situation, in which the musician proves how he can equal the poet in realizing the agony of the man "chain'd to the chill and stiffening steed"; and the final movement, *allegro marziale*, illustrates Victor Hugo's powerful passage at the conclusion of his poem,—

Il cria éperuvant, tu pourrais implacable.
Pale, épuisé, béant, sous ton vol qui l'accable
Il ploie avec effort;
Chaque pas que tu fais semble creuser sa tombe.
Enfin le terme arrive... Il court, il vole, il tombe,
Et se relève Roi.

Liszt has imbibed the spirit of the poet in his score, and reproduces the exulting tone of the eventual triumph of Mazeppa, who, after severe suffering, will know how to bear greatness. The very defects which have been ascribed to the composer in his poetic symphonies, of being too wild and chaotic, become beauties in conveying through the ear what the poet can make visible in the mind's eye. Technical criticism of the orchestral mechanism by which the electrical effects are created, can afford no real notion of the vivid imagery, of the rich colouring, of the broad and imposing elements of this grand creation, which, on the whole, is more soul-stirring than even Herr Raff's setting of the "Lenore" ballad.

About the remainder of the programme of the 9th there are but few words to say: the Symphony in G minor, Op. 43, by the late Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, is in his elegant and refined style, but in the orchestral epic his genius is not so manifest as in his overtures and concertos; power is wanting in this, the sole symphony of the late composer's which has been given to the world, and it will not supersede in interest his instrumental preludes. The Pianoforte Concerto in F sharp minor, Op. 69, by Dr. Ferdinand Hiller, so brilliantly performed by Fräulein Mehlig, is one of the finest specimens of pianoforte power with orchestral illustration by the eminent German master, himself one of the most poetic of pianists. The vocal excerpts were Adolphe Adam's animated *bravura* from "Giralda," and a common-place Valse, by Signor Arditi, both calculated to display the executive skill of Mdlle. Ida Corani; Herr Wagner's song of Wolfram to the Night Star, from the "Tannhäuser," and Claude Melnotte's invocation to his lady-love, from Mr. Cowen's "Pauline," both expressively sung by Mr. Celli. The birthday of Beethoven (December 17, 1770) will be celebrated on the 16th, at the Crystal Palace Concert, by performing his Choral Symphony (No. 9), his Overture to "Prometheus," and his Emperor Concerto in E flat, for piano and orchestra, with Madame Arabella Goddard as the pianist. It ought not to be forgotten that the credit of the production of Dr. Franz Liszt's "Mazeppa" is due to Mr. Walter Bache, who introduced a pianoforte transcription of it at his recent recital in St. James's Hall.

CONCERTS.

At the performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, on the 7th inst., under the direction of Mr. Barnby, the tenor part fell to the lot of Mr. Pearson, who sang the music carefully and conscientiously, although his voice is scarcely powerful enough for the vast arena. Signor Foli's high notes are overtaxed in some portions of the Prophet's part; but there was no lack of devotional dignity in his style. Madame Sinico had the leading soprano part, but was labouring under a cold, which probably affected the singing of the trio, "Lift thine eyes," in which she was allied with Miss Annie Sinclair and Madame Sterling, the last-mentioned *artiste* dividing the contralto music with Miss H. Arnim. The only encore was for the air, "O rest in the Lord," given by Mrs. Sterling. The choral singing was generally steady, except in the attacks of the "Baal" cries. Mr. Barnby was the conductor, and Dr. Stainer was the organist.

Herr Straus introduced, at the Saturday Popular Concert on the 9th, a Violin Sonata, the composition of Pierre Gaviniès, who must have been an extraordinary artist for Viotti to call him "Le Tartini de la France." Gaviniès was born at Bordeaux, in 1726, and died on the eve of 1800; he made his *début* in Paris in 1741, and was nominated Professor of the Violin in 1796, after the formation of the Conservatoire by the Convention. He composed various sonatas, concertos, &c., and produced an opera, "Le Prélude," at the Théâtre Italien, in Paris, in 1760. It is stated that he never played a piece called the "Romance de Gaviniès," with variations, without affecting to tears his auditory, such was the pathos of his style. The sonata played by Herr Straus, with pianoforte accompaniment (Sir J. Benedict), was of the quaint school of Corelli, but not so easy to execute as may be supposed from the period at which it was written. Mr. Franklin Taylor performed Sir W. Sterndale Bennett's "Maid of Orleans," pianoforte sonata, which Dr. Von Bülow appreciated so highly that he introduced it at one of his recitals. Mr. Taylor has executed the work at the Crystal Palace Concerts, and he did full justice to its recondite beauties, which, despite the title, are irrespective of the story of Joan of Arc's career. Schumann's Trio for piano, violin, and violoncello, executed by Mr. Franklin Taylor, Herr Straus, and Signor Piatti, and Haydn's String Quartet in D major, Op. 20, No. 4, were the other items of the scheme. Miss Ellen Horne was the vocalist, and sang airs by J. S. Bach and Sir J. Benedict. The programme of Monday's concert comprised Schubert's String Quintet in C major, Op. 161, for two violins (Herrn Straus and L. Ries), viola (Mr. Zerbini), and two violoncellos (Signori Pezze and Piatti); the Pianoforte and String Quartet in G minor, Op. 25, by Herr Brahms, which made a powerful impression; and Schumann's Toccata in C major, Op. 7, for piano, played by Fräulein Mehlig. Mdlle. Redeker sang songs by Schubert and Herr Franz. The final piece was Chopin's Introduction and Polonaise for piano and violoncello.

Musical Gossip.

The Crystal Palace Saturday Afternoon Concerts, after the one of this day (the 16th inst.), will be suspended for the Christmas entertainment, until the 3rd of February next, when the musical series will be recommenced. The "Messiah" will be given next Monday night (18th inst.).

The St. James's Hall Classical Popular Concerts will terminate with the Saturday one of this day (the 16th inst.), but will be resumed on Monday, the 8th of next January. During the new series, Madame Schumann, Fräulein Krebs, Herr Barth, of Berlin (pianists), M. Wieniawski, and Herr Joachim will appear, and it is expected that Herr Brahms will play some of his own compositions.

The musical world will learn with pleasure that the composer of "Eli" and of "Naaman" has been engaged for a considerable time in writing a third oratorio. We have reason to believe that

the Biblical subject chosen by Sir Michael Costa for his book is that of "Joseph."

The Christmas performance of the "Messiah" by the Sacred Harmonic Society, conducted by Sir Michael Costa, will be given on the 22nd inst.

The Royal Albert Hall Choral Society will perform the "Messiah," under Mr. Barnby's direction, on the 18th inst.

Mr. W. CARTER'S Choir sang in Haydn's "Creation," on the 14th inst. The singers announced were Madame Lemmens, Miss Julian, Mr. Lloyd, and Signor Foli.

Mr. DANNEBUTHER'S final Classical Music Evening, in Ormeau Square, took place on the 14th inst., a notice of which will be given in our next issue.

The Civil Service annual concert will take place on the 19th inst.

Mr. C. S. JEKYL, who officiated as assistant to Mr. Turler, the organist of Westminster Abbey, has been appointed organist to Her Majesty's Chapels Royal, as successor to the late Mr. George Cooper. Mr. Jekyll is most competent to perform his duties, and the nomination, by the Bishop of London, approved by the Queen, seems to indicate that the system of musical pluralities is to be abolished. The papers recently read at the College of Organists show the growing inclination which exists to improve cathedral and church services. After Mr. Turpin's exhaustive essay on the importance of employing full orchestras, Mr. W. A. Barrett read a paper on anthems, illustrated by members of the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral. The works were by Purcell, Croft, B. yce, Battishill, Wesley, and Sir J. Goss. Mr. Barrett, however, in referring to these musicians, distinctly stated that there ought to be no slavish imitation of their styles; and that modern writers, whilst emulating the spirit which called forth former composers, should continue to advance with the progress of Art.

The traditional mode of singing madrigals, glees, catches, &c., is being preserved by an association called the North Kensington Musical Evenings for Gentlemen, who meet and smoke, like the Wandering Minstrels Club, whilst discoursing sweet music; but on one evening the rules are suspended, to permit the presence of ladies, when smoking is prohibited. The association has professional aid,—the London Vocal Union, under the direction of Mr. F. Walker, and our leading instrumental soloists, being engaged.

The oratorio, "Mount Moriah," by Dr. Bridge, organist at Westminster Abbey, and Mr. F. H. Cowen's cantata, "The Corsair," will be performed by the Brixton Choral Society, next Monday (the 18th inst.).

Prof. Sir HERBERT S. OAKELEY has resumed his organ performances in the Edinburgh University Music Class-room. About 200 students attended to listen to works by Bach, Haydn, Beethoven, Handel, Mozart, and Hummel, all recognized classics, of course, but the organist very properly aims at producing compositions by the less known masters, ancient and modern. One novelty was certainly most interesting, namely an air by Bach, "Willst du dein Herz mir schenken?" one of the compositions by the master-mind in his boyhood. It is called, in fact, "Aria di Giovanni," and Prof. Oakeley secured a copy of it on his recent visit to Germany, when at Eisenach, in the house in which the great contrapuntist was born in 1685. Two Preludes (by Brosig, in F, and by Kühnstedt, in B flat), and a Gavotte, by J. P. Gotthard, were included in the programme, as also a March by Mr. Henry Smart, the composer of much good music for the instrument of which he is such an able exponent.

An English version of Herr Johann Strauss's work, "Die Fledermaus" ("The Bat"), of the German *buffo* school, will be produced at the Alhambra Theatre next Monday. It has been adapted, with additions of choruses and ballet music, by Mr. Hamilton Clarke.

The Royalty Theatre is to be reopened at

Christmas with M. Offenbach's 'Orphée aux Enfers.'

THE revival of Meyerbeer's 'Robert le Diable,' at the Paris Théâtre National de l'Opéra, has been the great musical event. M. Halanzier has supplied a most costly *mise en scène*. It was first produced on the 21st of November, 1831, when the cast comprised Madame Dorus-Gras (Alice), Madame Cécile Damoreau (the Princess), Nourrit (Robert), and Levasseur (Bertram). The present singers are Mdle. Krauss, Alice; Madame Carvalho, the Princess; M. Salomon, Robert; and M. Boudouresque, Bertram. With the exception of Madame Carvalho, the artists of forty-five years since were far superior. Then, who can replace Tagliioni as the Abbess? Again, M. Deldevez, the present conductor, is not a Habeneck. M. Léon Escudier has found it necessary to extend, his *répertoire* at the Théâtre Italien by the 'Poliuto' of Donizetti, and the 'Trovatore' of Signor Verdi. The cast, in the latter, included Mesdames Singer and Sanz, Signori Aramburo, Pandoïfini, and E. De Reské. The success at the Lyrique of M. Massé's 'Paul et Virginie' continues to be unexampled. Félicien David's Ode Symphony 'Le Désert,' which failed at Her Majesty's Theatre, will be revived on Sunday (the 17th inst.), not only at M. Pasdeloup's Popular concerts, but also at M. Colonne's Châtelet Concerts. Since David's death there is much eagerness to revive his operas 'Herculanum' and 'La Perle du Brésil,' as also his symphonic works 'Eden,' 'Moïse,' and 'Christophe Colomb.' His 'Lalla Rookh' is now being played at the Opéra Comique. The 'Romeo and Juliet' Symphony, by the Russian composer Tchaikowsky, recently produced at the Crystal Palace, was executed on the 10th inst. at M. Pasdeloup's concerts. Mdle. Tayau played a violin concerto by M. B. Godard.

The first performance of Herr Wagner's 'Flying Dutchman' in America has taken place in Philadelphia. Madame Pappenheim was Senta; Mr. Preusser, the doomed Vanderdecken; Mr. Sullivan, the Norwegian Captain; Mr. Morgan, the Pilot; and Signor Bacci, Eric. This was a cast of mixed nationalities, but the success of the work was so great that it will be produced in New York, with the same artists, next month.

It is decided that Herr Wagner's 'Walküre' will be produced at the Imperial Opera-house in Vienna, with considerable cuts, and Siegmund and Sieglinde are to be made cousins instead of being brother and sister, as in the Trilogy.

A COLLECTION of 300 letters, written to and by Chopin, and in the possession of his sister, is in course of publication at Dresden in German; but, as the Polish pianist corresponded chiefly in French, it is to be hoped the letters will be also given in the original language.

HERR AUGUSTE REISSMANN has undertaken to complete the 'Musikalisches Conversations-Lexicon,' left unfinished by the late Hermann Mendel. Herr Franz Witt, of Berlin, has offered a prize of 300 marks (15*l.*) for the best paper on the vexed question of consecutive fifths and hidden octaves. A plentiful supply of these grammatical errors is to be found here in our modern compositions.

THE veteran Stuttgart tenor, Herr Sontheim, who induced the King of Würtemberg to go to the expense of reducing the pitch, and a fortnight afterwards petitioned for the restoration of the former high standard, has been singing in Vienna in Halévy's 'Juive,' in which he still preserves his *c sharp de poitrine*.

MADAME SCHUMANN played with the greatest success, at the Eighth Gewandhaus Concert at Leipzig, her husband's Pianoforte Concerto in A minor, Mendelssohn's Variations, Op. 82, and a Waltz by Chopin. A new Symphony in D minor, No. 3, by Herr S. Jadassohn, was well received, the composer conducting his work. The baritone, Herr Paul Hiller, at the Schwerin Opera-house, is a son of Dr. Hiller, of Cologne. There is to be a Congress of Musical Societies in Vienna, to give

various concerts, the profits of which are to be devoted to the erection of a monument to Beethoven in the Austrian capital, where he lived and died. Herr Goldmark, the composer of the 'Queen of Sheba,' is finishing a new opera, called 'Les Argonautes,' for the Imperial Opera-house.

DRAMA

Dramatic Gossip.

THE desire of the managers to escape the competition of Christmas will this year have the effect of leaving little novelty for Christmas to witness. Mr. Byron's new comedy at the Opéra Comique is produced to-night. The same evening witnesses the reopening of the Lyceum. A new burlesque at the Gaiety will be given on Thursday. A new drama at the Olympic, and other novelties, are announced for Monday next.

WE are sorry to hear that Mr. Barry Sullivan, in the course of his fight with Richmond, in the final scene of 'Richard the Third,' on Tuesday evening last, received an injury in the face, one of his eyes narrowly escaping destruction. Mr. Sullivan fell on the stage, the curtain had to be dropped, and the performance was suspended. If the present style of fighting is continued, accidents of this kind may be expected. We have ourselves seen Mr. Sullivan, by the force of his arm, knock the sword out of the hand of Richmond into the auditorium, and have watched Richard compelled to wait for his quietus until some one would return his adversary his weapon. Shouting on the stage, screaming, and a variety of other actions, receive conventional expression, and a kick or a drubbing is always a transparent delusion. Is there any reason why a combat should stand alone in this respect? Macready and Kean, and other actors of highest mark, were very vigorous in fighting; but the reason seems rather to have been found in the avidity with which the public receives a good fight than in the requirements of art.

'L'AMI FRITZ,' of MM. Erckmann-Chatrian, has triumphed over the difficulties interposed in the way of its production at the Comédie Française, and has obtained a success which the efforts at repression have only served to increase. It is a graceful and idyllic piece, suggesting comparisons with the pastoral works of George Sand, and containing nothing on which even ingenuity, or malice, can force a political signification. The plot, which extends over three acts, shows the means by which the Rabbi David induces Friz Kobus, a rich farmer, to overcome his aversion from marriage and espouse Suzel, the daughter of a neighbour. It contains some domestic scenes and interiors of remarkable beauty and colour, and its characters are wholly natural and sympathetic. As it is acted to perfection, and is mounted with a luxury and correctness rare even at the Comédie, its success is assured. M. Got has never been seen to greater advantage than in the Rabbi David; Mdle. Jous-sain, Mdle. Reichemberg, M. Fevre, and M. Coquelin *cadet*, share in the triumph of the interpretation.

A COMPLETE change has been made in the programme at the Variétés, the principal items in which now consist of a *revue*, in two acts and three tableaux, by M. Ch. Monselet, entitled 'La Revue sans Titre'; 'Le Jeu de l'Amour et du . . . Houzard,' a one-act comedy, with a title parodying that of the well-known piece of Marivaux; and 'On demande une Femme Honnête,' a one-act comedy of MM. Amédien Scholl and Victor Koning.

'L'AFFAIRE FAUCONNIER,' a four-act comedy, by M. G. Petit, has been produced by M. Maurice Coste, at the Théâtre Cluny. It deals with the formation of bubble companies, and approaches very serious interest, since a principal character attempts suicide and succeeds in wounding himself.

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